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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

F A M I N E C A M P A I G N R O U N D U P

(Prepared for the use of U.S.D.A. State Emergency Food Managers in carrying out a coordinated famine emergency program in their States.)

A RECORD-BREAKING ACHIEVEMENT

Maybe the performance has not been perfect but history will record that the United States did a record-breaking job of exporting wheat and other grain during 1945-46.

Shipments of wheat from this country for the current marketing year ending June 30 will be the greatest for any one country in history.

Supplemented by corn during May and June, our 1945-46 exports will be only a little short of the very high goal which was not established until near the middle of the marketing year.

Here are the facts for the record:

1945-46 GOAL:

Started at 225 million bushels last summer, later increased to 250 million bushels. Then, in December with new reports of drought and additional requirements around the world, a goal of 400 million bushels was set for the marketing year.

1945-46 EXPORTS:

July-December, 1945	195 million bushels
January-April, 1946	122 million bushels
10-months total	317 million bushels

(Previous record export year for 12 months, 1914-15, was 355 million bushels. Prewar, 1935-39 average, was 62 million bushels.)

WHEAT DELIVERED UNDER CERTIFICATE-BONUS PLAN:

43 million bushels (Certificate plan announced April 3; bonus offer announced April 19. Little, if any, of this wheat exported before April 30).

CIVILIAN SAVINGS:

Domestic food use of wheat for April, May, and June estimated at 85 million bushels.

(Compares with 132 million bushels for preceding 3 months and also for April, May, June, 1945.)

D. A. Fitzgerald, director of the USDA requirements and allocations branch, took cognizance of the above record in testifying May 22 before the House Agricultural Committee.

"We need not feel ashamed of the job that has been done," he stated. He said we expect to ship 380 million bushels of wheat by June 30, and to add an equivalent 20 million bushels with other grains. The Government recently purchased 33 million bushels of corn from farmers to help in the famine emergency.

Fitzgerald pointed out that at the start of the next crop season, July 1, the United States carryover of wheat will be about eight-tenths of a bushel per person compared with 3 bushels for Canada, 2 bushels for Argentina, and 1-1/2 bushels for Australia, the other big wheat-exporting countries.

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NEW GOVERNMENT MEASURES

Recent Government actions to make more food available for export:

- ** Food orders amended to require affected slaughterers to make up before June 15 the differences between the amounts of meat and lard required to be set aside for Government purchase and the amounts actually delivered to the Government.
- ** Distillers of beverage alcohol will be permitted to operate during June and July on the same reduced basis as in May. No unused quotas of grain from previous months can be used. Use of any wheat is banned.
- ** Farmers who signed contracts before May 25 can deliver wheat to elevators and collect their 30-cent bonus after that date in cases where elevators were plugged.
- ** Orders issued to make effective Government program to control distribution and consumption of the 1946 wheat crop.

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QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Famine is the greatest politician of all -- peace can not be built on a foundation of empty stomachs."

--- Sir John Orr, Director-General of FAO.

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"Any step toward feeding the world's families and making the fullest use of the products of farms and fisheries is a step toward winning and securing the peace." --- President Truman.

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"If we do not feed these people, it will not be the atomic bomb of science which will demolish civilization, but the lack of active charity." --- Cardinal Spellman of New York.

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WHAT YOUR SLICE OF BREAD MEANS TO THE HUNGRY

Before you take that extra slice of bread -- think. How much can one slice help starving Europeans?

Let's use a city like St. Louis, for example. One slice of bread saved at each meal by its 822 thousand residents would total about 74 million slices. Figuring 20 slices to one loaf of bread -- that's about 3,700,000 loaves EACH MONTH.

But Europeans can't receive our bread, you say?

Let's convert the loaves into bushels of wheat. There are 72 loaves in one bushel of wheat at 80 percent extraction. St. Louis could save about 51,400 bushels of wheat a month by conserving 74 million slices of bread.

If every one in the United States could save one slice of bread each day, that saving alone could keep 3,600,000 people alive overseas.

Your slice of bread does help. If you save a little, you can help a lot.

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DELAYED DELIVERY OF BONUS WHEAT IN SOME CASES

In order to enable every farmer who wanted to deliver wheat on or before May 25 to collect the 30-cent-a-bushel bonus, the Department of Agriculture is permitting delayed delivery of bonus wheat in special cases.

Where the local elevators were blocked, the farmers were permitted to sign contracts through May 25 for sale of wheat to the Commodity Credit Corporation and then delay delivery of the wheat until the elevator becomes open.

It was emphasized that this action does not extend the bonus offer which expired May 25, and that the offer will not be extended. The special delivery deferment is simply to take care of those farmers who were ready to deliver their wheat but could not do so because of plugged local receiving points.

The heavy flow of wheat from farms just prior to May 25 taxed shipping facilities at many points. In all cases, farmers must deliver their contracted wheat just as soon as facilities are open in order to qualify for the 30-cent bonus.

Through May 16, a total of 43,397,620 bushels of wheat had been delivered under the bonus plan. This was an increase of 20,000,000 bushels in one week.

The leading States for deliveries were North Dakota, 14,773,000 bushels; Kansas, 6,690,000 bushels; Montana, 5,413,000 bushels; and South Dakota, 3,966,000 bushels.

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PUBLIC EATING PLACES URGED TO INTENSIFY CONSERVATION

The President's Famine Emergency Committee has asked restaurant managers to agree among themselves in each community to "serve no bread or other wheat products unless specifically requested" by their customers.

In a memorandum to City Famine Emergency Committees, Walter F. Straub, director of the Office of Emergency Food Program, pointed out that the wheat conservation drive in public eating places has not been as successful as might be expected. He asked the committees to meet with restaurant managers with the purpose of reaching an agreement to serve no bread or wheat products except upon request.

Price Administrator Paul A. Porter has paved the way for such understandings by reaffirming a previous OPA action which permits restaurants to reduce or eliminate customary servings of bread or other wheat products without reducing prices, provided they display on their menus a list of the items with reduced portions and offer to supply the normal portion upon request.

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NEW WHEAT ORDERS

Measures have been announced putting into effect the wheat program for the 1946-47 marketing year outlined by Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson on May 14. They are:

- ** An increase in the domestic distribution of flour for household and commercial use, beginning in July;
- ** A requirement that half of the milling wheat bought by elevator and mill operators, merchandisers, millers and other processors from farmers in 26 States be set aside for Government account;
- ** A commitment to pay ceiling prices for all set-aside wheat acquired by the Government.

Since April 22 the production of flour for domestic consumption has been limited to 75 percent of the quantity distributed domestically in the corresponding month in 1945. In June the authorized rate is 75 percent of the monthly average in 1945. Beginning July, the rate is increased to 85 percent of the 1945 monthly average.

The States covered by the set-aside are: California, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

The set-aside requirement is that no producer in the 26 States can deliver wheat grading No. 3 or better or grading No. 4 or No. 5 on test weight, to a country elevator, or by truck, wagon, or water to a sub-terminal elevator, terminal elevator or mill elevator unless, within 15 days from the time of delivery not less than one-half of the wheat shall be sold to the country elevators, sub-terminal elevator, terminal elevator, mill elevator, or to a merchandiser, miller or other processor. Wheat delivered for the account of CCC is excepted.

The amendment provides further that no merchandiser, miller or other processor and no owner or operator of a country elevator, sub-terminal elevator, terminal elevator, or mill elevator shall purchase or accept delivery of this wheat unless he (1) sets aside, reserves and holds for delivery to the Commodity Credit Corporation not less than one-half of the wheat grading No. 3 or better or grading No. 4 or No. 5 on test weight, purchased by him from producers; and (2) delivers this quantity in the form of either wheat or flour to the CCC as directed by CCC.

The Commodity Credit Corporation will pay ceiling prices for the 250,000,000 bushels of wheat to be acquired under the wheat set-aside purchase program announced May 14.

If it becomes apparent that ceiling prices are not being reflected in prices paid producers for their wheat, county AAA committees may be authorized to purchase wheat direct from producers at the producer's ceiling prices.

1946 CROP PROGRESS

New wheat has started to move to market in the Southwest. Several carloads have been reported arriving daily in Fort Worth, Texas, and some has been received in Enid, Oklahoma.

Shipments in greater quantity are expected as soon as harvesting gets into full swing. The wheat harvest in both Texas and Oklahoma has been delayed by recent heavy rains, according to the U. S. Weather Bureau.

Regarding crop growing conditions in general, Weather Bureau reports that dry soil was predominant in much of the western portion of the U. S. But, moisture conditions were generally good in all areas east of the Rocky Mountains.

Rains have been beneficial to small grain crops in the northern interior and eastern plains. Winter wheat fields in western Kansas and Oklahoma, and spring wheat fields in the northern Plains area have been especially helped.

Spring wheat was in fairly good condition, and winter wheat was in mostly good condition. Wheat was heading in southern Kansas. Some Hessian fly infestation was reported in Missouri and adjacent areas.

In northwestern Texas the condition of winter wheat remained mostly poor. Increased moisture was not sufficient to break the drought. Hail and other storms caused some damage to Texas crops.

Considerable acreage of rice was washed out in the lower Mississippi Valley, and other plantings have been delayed.

Rains in the Corn Belt delayed planting and cultivation. Cold wet weather made some replanting necessary in the central and southern areas.

Droughty conditions were most ended in the Lake region. Recent freezing weather made necessary much replanting of flax in the northern part of the country.

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USDA BUYING LIVESTOCK FOR UNRRA

Since January, USDA has been buying -- through established trade channels for shipment abroad by UNRRA -- draft mares, dairy heifers and a few bulls.

Altogether, about 20,000 dairy heifers, 650 bulls, and 36,700 horses have been bought. Besides, the Department holds UNRRA requisitions for purchase of 60,000 additional horses.

The stock is inspected by USDA, accepted or rejected and sent on to ports for ocean shipping.

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THE STAFF OF LIFE

Bread absorbs the attention of the world. In Europe, in Asia and in Africa, where half a billion people face hunger or possible death by starvation, the single food most desperately needed is bread.

Why bread? Why has Swift's phrase, "Bread is the staff of life," become the universally accepted description of this ancient and simple commodity? Why did Homer call it "the strength of life"?

Bread is basic. It is eaten more often and in larger quantities than any other food. It is economical. And the stuff of which bread is most often made -- wheat -- is one of the earth's hardiest, most versatile gifts.

Wheat can be kept indefinitely; it is nature's own dehydrated product; it is easy to store, compact to ship and it needs no special packaging, it may be poured into the hold of a ship and on arrival simply syphoned off into bins.....

Bread, with a history going back more than 6,000 years, is the basis of our civilization. Man first turned from hunter and nomad into farmer when the life-giving properties of grain were discovered, probably in the fertile plains between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. Ruins of ancient Chaldea reveal ovens in the courtyard of almost every house, and grinding stones for grain near by.

The Swiss lake dwellers of the New Stone Age ground barley, corn and wheat on flat stones and baked the flour into cakes.... Models of early Egyptian bakeries have been found in excavations and tombs. The Greeks and Romans believed the arts of milling and baking were a gift of the gods.

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WHERE TO MAKE CASH DONATIONS

Contributors of money to buy food for starving Europeans can make checks payable to Lee Marshall, executive director chairman of the drive, and mail them to 100 Maiden Lane, New York City. The organization is the Emergency Food Collection.

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(See policy statement issued May 20 for general Department policy on contributions.)

THE STARVING CAN ONLY BE FATTENED --NOT CURED

Basing her conclusions on the University of Minnesota experiment to determine the results of mass-starvation, Iris Ashley Knowles writes in the Washington Post:

"When you see a movie of Europeans, a crowd in a newsroll for instance, do you look at them and think, they look all right... They don't appear quite the skeletons you expected to see? Well, DON'T BE DECEIVED BY APPEARANCES. Starvation is a slow business and except from complete abstinence, is seldom much evidenced by the gaunt cheekbone and skeleton arms. It often makes people seem quite bloated:.....

"In the later stages of undernourishment, all resistance to disease disappears... A common cold turns swiftly to pneumonia. A broken bone fails to heal and turns septic. And two more people die. They have not died of pneumonia and broken bone. They have died of starvation....

"If you go too low in the state of starvation, it seems almost certain that you cannot come back. As well as all the people who have suffered and are still in such tragic plight, there are now babies, little children. Are they going to go too low to come back? Will the people of this land of plenty allow this to happen?"

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:	NEWS DEVELOPMENTS
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Crowds have LOOTED FOOD TRAINS in the Essen area of Germany nearly every day this month, the British Military Government reports. About 100 persons have been arrested.

The food trains contain mainly potatoes. Normal consumers have received no potato ration for four months.

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AUSTRIAN CROPS, even under favorable weather conditions, will not supply more than 60 percent of the country's essential needs, it was reported May 20. A severe drought in the eastern province has ruined nearly 90 percent of the expected grain harvest.

UNRRA Director F. H. LaGuardia has announced that GREECE FACES A SHARP SLASH in her low bread ration of eight ounces. If the allowance is reduced, Greece will become the fourth country in recent weeks to take emergency measures because of a decline in relief shipments.

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Lieut. Gen. Lucius Clay reports that DRY WEATHER HAS STRUCK CROPS in the American Occupation Zone in Berlin and reduced earlier crop estimates.

Winter damage to bread-grain crops is less than 2 percent, but 9 percent winter oil seed acreage must be replanted.

Stocks of fatty acids are deteriorating. The next 12 months' production will be about 2,500 tons, against requirements of 6,500 tons. Even the distribution of one bar of soap a person a month will have to be discontinued unless soap ingredients are made available.

In order to stimulate coal production, the weekly food ration of miners has been raised 300 grams.

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Premier Stalin ordered May 20 that all nonproductive WINTER WHEAT LAND IN RUSSIA be plowed up, and replanted with spring wheat.

Two UNRRA officials have reported that the wheat crop in the great Ukraine producing region was threatened with ruin because of prolonged drought.

An overnight rain can wipe out effects of the long drought in the Ukraine. Then too, hot winds blowing across the Volga from Kazakh can shrivel up millions of acres of wheat.

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UNRRA officials in Austria are seeking ways to get farmers to DELIVER THEIR FOODSTUFFS THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS. Difficulties are the weakness of the government itself and the low prices paid for the food.

An UNRRA investigator reports that city dwellers were getting 30 percent of their food through the black market. The Food Ministry complains that punishments for failing to deliver farm products are inadequate. Farmers who fail to deliver proper quotas of milk face the penalty of having their cows seized and given to other farmers; but this measure has not been very effective.

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Sir John Orr, Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization, has suggested a SINGLE PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL FOOD ORGANIZATION with a world-wide crop reporting system to be the "intelligent service in the war against hunger."

He warned at an 18-country food session in Washington that the world food shortage will continue three or four years, and said that only energetic measures could prevent fulfillment of a prediction that more people would die of hunger than were killed during the war.

Peter Orlov, Russian commentator, declares that RUSSIA HAS PROVIDED more than 1,000,000 tons of grain to Finland, Poland, Rumania, and France.

Russia has lent Poland 200,000 tons of seed grain, since the country had only been able to provide 50,000 tons for sowing. Russia has an agreement with Finland to provide 100,000 tons of grain from a reduction of the Russian bread ration. Russia, he said, also loaned Rumania 20,000 carloads of wheat in addition to 300,000 tons of wheat and corn. Rumanian reparations grain deliveries to Russia have been postponed.

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The new premier of Japan, Shigeru Yoshida, has outlined four new steps in the JAPANESE FOOD CRISIS: (1) Take urgent measures to obtain assigned quotas of wheat, sweetpotatoes, and other foods from farmers; (2) Reveal any "hidden" food supplies; (3) Improve the broken-down distribution system; (4) If necessary, make further appeals to the Allies occupying the country.

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Large savings of food have been reported by the Navy as a result of food conservation measures ordered by Navy Secretary James Forrestal. About 11 million pounds of flour, fats, cereal and sugar was the Navy's contribution during April and March to fight famine overseas.

The conservation measures include a changeover to 80 percent extraction flour, reductions in the size of bread slices, wheat rolls and sweet dough, and substitution of cornbread, buckwheat cakes, hominy grits and potatoes for wheat breads and cereals.

Meanwhile, marked savings in use of wheat, fats and oils have been reported in 53 Government cafeterias in Washington. These cafeterias have saved several carloads of foodstuffs since the opening of the food conservation campaign.

There is a daily average savings of 57½ gallos of oil, 347 pounds of fat, and 1,242 pounds of flour. The cafeterias have a three-point program which they follow in saving foodstuffs -- the key words are conserve, reduce, and educate.

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The Advertising Council, Inc.

Famine allocations of radio time for the week of May 27 to June 2:

ABC Network - May 27, Bill Thompson Show, Martin Agronsky, Baukhage, Ethel & Albert, Walter Kiernan; May 28, Hymns of all Churches, Correspondents Abroad, John B. Kennedy; May 29, Gil Martyn - News, Martin Agronsky, Baukhage, Walter Kiernan; May 30, Ted Malone; May 31, Correspondents Abroad, John B. Kennedy; June 1, To Live in Peace; June 2, Tom Glazer's Ballad Box, Drew Pearson.

CBS Network - May 27, Bachelor's Children, CBS World News; May 28, This is My Best; May 29, Cimarron Tavern; May 30, Suspense, May 31, Skyline Roof, CBS News; June 1 Matinee At Meadowbrook, Hit Parade; June 2, Radio Reader's Digest, Hal McIntyre's Orch.

MBS Network - May 27, Letters to Lindlahr, Cecil Brown, News for Women, Pete Howe; May 28, Nick Carter, Frazier Hunt, Elsa Maxwell, Cedric Foster, Fulton Lewis, Jr.; May 29, Endorsed by Dorsey; May 30, Pete Howe; May 31, Luncheon With Lopez; June 1, Twenty Questions; June 2, True Detective Mysteries.

NBC Network - May 27, St. Louis Serenade, Facts and Faces; May 28, A Date with Judy, News Roundup, Morgan Beatty; May 30, Do You Remember, Facts and Faces, Maggi McNellis; May 31, Echoes from the Tropics, News Roundup, Morgan Beatty, Richard Harkness; June 1, Phone Again Finnegan, Can You Top This?; June 2, Fitch Bandwagon, News Roundup.

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Plentiful Foods

An abundant food program is now under way to push consumption of early spuds.

Meetings were held with the potato industry in New York May 20 and Chicago May 21. The early crop looks like a 70-75 million bushel yield. We might be able to use 60-65 million bushels without trouble, but it will take lots of push to get consumers to do away with that extra 10-15 million bushels.

Early spuds don't store commercially, although the housewife can keep them a week or two without loss. The quality of the early spuds looks good. If railroad and refrigeration facilities are available, the consumer will be able to buy top-grade potatoes for 3½-5¢ per pound.

The PMA Atlanta Office has put out a series of stories and scripts to push the early potato crop.

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Negro Cooperation

Several more requests have come in for a USDA speaker to appear before groups of Negro ministers, telling them how they and their congregations can help in the Famine Emergency. The Fraternal Council of Churches, with a list of 2000 Protestant and Catholic Negro ministers, has asked that each member on this list be sent a revised famine fact sheet, a copy of the Homemakers' fact sheet on the emergency, and a copy of the famine issue of the Consumer's Guide.

Local Initiative

Alabama - Montgomery famine fighters "muscle in" on a fashion show to "tie-in" a lecture about conservation and abundant foods with the display of clothing.

Missouri - Veterans are making brief famine relief talks between movies at some local theaters.

Rhode Island - A cafeteria in a manufacturing plant has a display of menus which draws contrast between European and American meals.

Arkansas - Food Advisory committees are pushing plentiful foods hard in order to minimize hoarding.

Oklahoma - Wholesale grocers are instructing their salesmen to assist retailers in building up store displays pushing abundant foods.

Vermont - One restaurant owner visited all his competitors in the city, lining them up for unified cooperation to save food. This is one answer to complaints of some states where owners sometimes won't play ball for fear other restaurant operators may gain a competitive advantage.

Oregon - In at least one county, fats are collected by butchers in pickup service provided by a tallow firm which also supplies free cleaning of grease traps in eating places.

California - Mayors met in Orange county to coordinate community collection drives. In Los Angeles, the mayor appointed a committee to coordinate the twin jobs of food saving and food collection.

South Dakota - Rusk county's program manager sent a "stuffer" with regular mail to farmers which is notable for its informality. It's written in the first person, calls attention to famine pictures in a current magazine, plugs saving and gardens, and then concludes, "Well, we have had a nice visit together...."

New Jersey - Seabrook Farms, food processors, are tying in drive for needed labor with needs for famine relief. Jersey's Skouras Theaters will conduct a mass meeting in their largest cinema to kick-off a statewide famine drive early in June. They are printing 60 x 40 posters at their own expense. Bell Telephone is attaching a flyer to every bill, explaining the campaign.

Maine - Setting the first example of cooperation among service clubs, the Sanford Lions Club voted to discontinue the use of bread at meetings for the duration of the emergency. Oxford county is showing the film "Suffer Little Children" at schools in conjunction with a drive to recruit boys and girls for farm work.

New York - Two New York Post reporters are living on a starvation diet to dramatize need. Monroe County is planning spot movies with Pathe News, and also mounting a movie on truck to show on streets at night.

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Distributive Trades

The Cleveland Food Brokers Association has offered its services to USDA and to the food trade in merchandising foods in abundance. The Association commends the "splendid job" of dieticians in promoting food conservation.

Wilson & Company in Chicago is editorializing on the conservation program in each issue of its Certified News which goes to 30,000 employees. They also report conservation practices in their plant restaurant.

The Connecticut (USDA) Food Trades Advisory Committee has printed and distributed 10,000 copies of a poster emphasizing:

1. Don't waste a crumb of bread.
2. Conserve all wheat products.
3. Avoid any food waste.
4. Use more plentiful foods to save scarce foods.
5. Re-use fats and oils--salvage fat when no longer useable.

It is similar to the red and white posters printed and issued by the Massachusetts and Rhode Island Food Distribution Advisory Committee.

About 1,700 copies of the old WFA poster "Lick the Platter Clean" have been distributed by the Seattle-Spokane Food Distribution Advisory Committees. (This poster is now being reprinted by the Office of Emergency Food Program.)

Celanese Corporation of America is sponsoring a large "To Save Lives" advertisement. Continental Baking Company has spread the message of "Buy Less bread...Eat less bread...Waste no bread at all" through its advertising and over the Columbia network.

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Transit Cards

A total 19,000 transit cards, now in circulation, make an appeal for greater fat salvage. Soon to appear are 19,000 that have been made available by the Red Cross. They stress: "Save lives--Save wheat-fats-oils."

Public Eating Places

Effort was made this week toward obtaining greater cooperation in the conservation of wheat and wheat products by public eating places. Among the actions:

***OPA reaffirmed action permitting restaurants to reduce or eliminate customary portions of bread or other wheat products without reducing prices. OPA cautioned that restaurants must provide the regular serving if so requested by the customer.

***A memorandum to chairmen of large-city Famine Emergency Committees requesting immediate action and enclosing a copy of the OPA order of March 22 and the OPA press release.

***Letters to leaders in the hotel and restaurant industry urging more widespread action with "strenuous efforts to get the full cooperation of high-priced hotels, private clubs and night spots."

***A request to organizations representing night clubs and similar entertainment spots.

In view of many reports we have received as to "the fear of OPA", accounting for lack of cooperation of many eating places, it is believed that Mr. Porter's statement and subsequent actions will bring about noticeable improvement in program participation by this branch of the food industry. It has been gratifying to note the great many reports from hotels and restaurants of savings of 40 percent and better.

A rather complete questionnaire was issued by the American Hotel Association to its membership on May 10. Results have not yet been reported.

The National Restaurant Association and state associations want to give wide distribution to the poster carrying the President's message. Increased quantities will be provided as soon as additional copies come off the press. The Chicago Restaurant Association has agreed to supply menu tip-ons to other restaurant associations wishing this service. The latter information will be given to individual restaurants and restaurant groups that are now writing to Washington for such visual aids.

Assurance of full cooperation was received this week from the manager of the Bland Hotels in Charlotte and Durham, N. C.; Knoxville, Tenn.; and Washington, D. C.

The South Dakota Better Restaurant Association pledged its support "to do its utmost to the end that others in the world may enjoy the good food for good health."

The Florida State Hotel Commission has mailed 8,000 "Help Fight Famine" pamphlets to the served-food industry. The Washington State Restaurant Association has distributed 4,000 leaflets. The Maryland Restaurant Association has furnished members with posters and table tents. Menus, table tents, etc., have been received from New York City and Chicago offices illustrating individual cooperation to spread the conservation message.

The "Indiana Pharmacist" editorializes on famine in its April issue. Kansas City Restaurant Association requested 100 additional placards issued by the Kansas City Food Distribution Advisory Committee.

The Oklahoma Restaurant Association is preparing a 14"x20" poster. Their trade magazine suggests uses of abundant foods to members in meal planning.

The Salt Lake City Food Distribution Advisory Committee has put out ribbons -- "Help Save Lives! Don't Waste Food!" -- worn by waitresses at the Hotel Utah. This hotel also distributes an attractive red, white, and blue flyer or menu enclosure explaining why some food servings are smaller now and carrying "an open letter to the restaurant trade" from Secretary Anderson.

The Joint Purchasing Commission of New York City has sent out a conservation bulletin to 59 institutions with a population of 15,500.

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Victory Gardens

New Hampshire -- Garden Committees and Supervisors are recommending establishment of canning centers wherever necessary. Some cities are appropriating money to help establish Community Gardens; Manchester has appropriated \$1500; Keene, \$200. Manufacturing companies in Nashua, Berlin, and other cities are making land available for employees.

Nevada -- Has put out "Home Gardener's Handbook" to help those who have not had gardens before.

West Virginia -- Governor Clarence W. Meadows has issued a proclamation urging more and better Victory Gardens in '46.

Colorado -- Material on thinning plants to get better quality vegetables is put out by the Colorado A & M Extension Service.

Vermont -- This State is turning out series on garden pest control.

Iowa -- A special series on weed killers.

Maryland -- Extension Service releasing series on thinning and another on how to mix poison for slugs and cutworms.

New York -- Cornell turning out about three stories per day on Victory Gardens. Special material on transplanting.

New Mexico -- State has been divided into three areas with different "frost-free" periods. Counties in these areas listed and times for planting each vegetable in each county given.

Washington -- Before Victory Garden campaign started, seed dealers said sales were lagging behind last year. Now say they are selling more seeds and plants than any previous time.

Nebraska -- Special emphasis on all-season garden, which more than doubles output on plot of ground.

South Dakota -- Detailed series on how to get the most out of scarce fertilizers.

Kentucky -- Special series on gardening during wet weather; then how to handle same soil during dry months.

North Carolina -- Series entitled "garden hints applicable this week."

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Mercy Wheat Promotion

An interesting aspect of the wheat purchase program is reported from Michigan.

"On Saturday evening, May 4, the results of the drive for 'Mercy Wheat' were announced on a radio program originating in the State PMA office at Lansing, carried by WKZO--Kalamazoo and WJEF--Grand Rapids. The program was staged as returns from elections are usually given. Several speakers, including PMA committeemen and farmers participated. County pledges were crowded in from time to time (Calhoun County pledges 40,502 bushels, etc.). State totals were announced at the end of the program.

"The program dramatized the whole famine need to increase deliveries of wheat from Michigan. Contributions of 1 bushel, 7 bushels, and 47 pounds and 3000 pounds were mentioned during the program, naming the farmer making the delivery."

The Women

The National Congress of Parents and Teachers Bulletin for May 1946 carried an article on the critical world famine situation and an appeal for cooperation with the Emergency Food Collection.

Consumers Union carried an article in their weekly bulletin "Help Fight Famine" giving housewives a number of suggestions on how to avoid waste, conserve wheat and fats, and promote the serving of more plentiful foods.

The Women's Auxiliary of CIO carried an article in their monthly publication for May on the famine situation in various countries and its effects and also a question and answer article on 80 percent flour extraction.

The National Congress of Negro Women, Inc., in the May issue of their monthly bulletin carried an article "Our Responsibility to a Hungry World" which called attention to Famine Emergency materials and also the Famine films, and enclosed "How Homemakers Can Help Save Food to Fight Famine."

The Texas Federation of Women's Clubs passed a resolution commending the Famine Emergency campaign at their meeting, May 9-11.

The Agriculture Chairman of the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs called a meeting of her 8 district chairmen and discussed a food program for next fall which included abundant foods, inspection and grading services of USDA. Food preservation for School Lunch and institutional and home use. Late gardens were advocated to ease food shortages due to bad weather.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

HOW YOU CAN USE THIS REPORT TO INCREASE TOTAL FOOD SUPPLIES

A report of the National Garden Conference recently held in Washington is enclosed. This report contains a wealth of factual information, advice, and suggestions from National leaders in many fields - also the recommendations of the committees adopted at the conference. I believe you will find it inspiring and I urge that you make full use of the materials it contains to carry the message of the increased need of a greater 1946 Victory Garden and Home Food Preservation Program to every group or individual you can contact. You know best what you can do -- whether through organizations, through the press, through the radio, or through any other channels to the public which you or your associates can reach.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS EMPHASIZE INCREASED IMPORTANCE OF VICTORY GARDENS

Day to day developments on the national scene are adding tremendously to the urgency and importance of Victory Gardens and home food preservation this year. While the first reason for reviving the program in 1946 -- worldwide famine -- still exists and calls for vigorous effort to increase home food supplies, other pressing reasons have developed which should spur us to even greater activity.

Recently transportation has been limited, some steel and other industries have been shut down, tinplate production is falling behind, power supplies in many areas have been reduced, and other injurious effects have resulted. The effects on the food supply inevitably mean some shortages. Many plants that are processing food products have been affected. The May 1 report on the new wheat crop prospects showing about 12% reduction under the previous month and Former President Hoover's latest report on world famine conditions emphasize the necessity of further increasing now the total food production in every possible way. Other developments appear daily.

Thus, added to our first objective of helping feed the people of famine-struck lands is the new objective, much closer to home, of helping assure that there will be plenty of food for Americans throughout the growing season and the coming winter.

HELPS ASSURE FAMILY SUPPLIES AND RELIEVES CRITICAL SITUATIONS

A strong nationwide program of home gardens and home food preservation in 1946 offers the American family its most effective means of assuring a good part of its own food supply. Furthermore, these programs are important factors in relieving pressure on an overloaded transportation system, adding to canned goods stocks, helping assure that local commercial supplies will meet needs, helping can or preserve abundances of fruits and vegetables on local markets, combatting black markets and inflation that might result if some foods fall far short of demand, and so on. Beginning at once and continuing until fall, we must concentrate on full production from Victory Gardens all through the season and on canning and preserving as much as possible. Remember - next year millions will again face famine. Your help in carrying this message to the public will be deeply appreciated.



Paul C. Stark

Paul C. Stark, Director
National Garden Program
U. S. Department of Agriculture

(O V E R)

HERE ARE THINGS THAT MUST BE DONE NOW FOR MOST EFFECTIVE RESULTS

1. Continue getting new recruits for the gardening program as long as local conditions permit. There is still time for millions of new gardens.
2. Keep gardens producing at full capacity by following up early crops with later crops (succession planting) and by planning crops that will keep bearing late in the season.
3. Urge good garden culture all season -- weeding, cultivation, watering as necessary, controlling pests and diseases, staking up high-growing plants, and so on. Good management means higher yields and less waste.
4. Plant and prepare for a lot of canning and home food preservation as crops come in. Home gardens should be planned and managed to provide additional supplies for preservation later.
5. Stress importance of careful conservation of sugar for canning.
Since OPA has made canning sugar available over a longer season this year, there is more need than ever to urge housewives to manage their supplies carefully and to use their canning supply of sugar most efficiently for canning purposes only.

Your suggestions for a stronger and more effective garden and food preservation program will be welcomed -- for this year's emergency program, for next year and the long-time continuing garden program that will mean so much for the health, happiness and welfare of our people. Meanwhile, let's continue every effort to make 1946 the greatest garden year ever.

"GROW A GARDEN AND SAVE A LIFE"

REPORT OF

National Garden Conference

MARCH 26-27-28, 1946
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FROM SECRETARY ANDERSON'S CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT:

We here in the Department would like to get together with the leaders in the garden and horticultural fields to consider the domestic and world food situation and the contributions our home and farm gardens can make in helping to assure adequate home supplies of food. Leaders in the Victory Garden Program of the war years have played a great role in encouraging and guiding many million Victory Gardeners to be successful in their efforts. The experience these people have gained and the great interest in home gardening that has resulted prompts me to believe that continued encouragement and guidance should be given to gardening, including improvement of our home grounds, both rural and urban, and community improvement.


Secretary

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Jefferson Auditorium

PROGRAM AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Chairman Paul C. Stark, Director
National Garden Program, U.S.D.A.

Secretary H. W. Hochbaum, Extension Service
Vice Chairman, U. S. Dept. of
Agriculture Garden Committee

March 26

9:30 A.M. Registration

9:45 A.M. The Objectives of this Conference
Paul C. Stark

10:00 A.M. The Action Plan of the Conference
H. W. Hochbaum

10:20 A.M. The Food Situation
(Also Special Message to the National Garden
Conference from President Truman)
Clinton P. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture

10:40 A.M. How Critical Is the Food Situation Abroad?
Roy F. Hendrickson, Deputy Director General, UNRRA

11:00 A.M. The Action Program of the President's Famine Emergency Committee
Chester C. Davis, Chairman, Famine Emergency Committee

11:20 A.M. What Selective Service Taught Us About Need for Better Food Habits
Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, Director,
Selective Service System

11:35 A.M. Why the Government Must Encourage the Garden Program
Representative Clarence Cannon, Chairman
House Appropriation Committee

11:50 A.M. Importance of Vegetables and Fruits in Meeting Nutrition Needs
Dr. Frank G. Boudreau, Chairman,
Food and Nutrition Board, National Research Council

12:10 P.M. Announcements and Completion of Registration

- - - - -

2:00 P.M. Better Planning for Home Grounds and Communities
Malcolm H. Dill, Chief, Planning and Design
Cincinnati Planning Commission

2:20 P.M. Summary of the Broad Garden Program and Its Importance to the
Future of the Nation
M. L. Wilson, Director, Extension Service

March 26 (Cont'd)

- 2:40 P.M. Appointment of Committees
(The committee meetings will discuss and recommend regarding various phases of the Immediate and Long-Time Garden Programs)
- 3-5:30 P.M. Committee Conferences
- Committees will appoint Sub-Committees to Make Recommendations
(Various Government employees will be assigned to different committees to serve as consultants but not as members of the committees)
- 8:00 P.M. Continuation of the Committee Conferences
(Evening meetings will be held. Conference rooms to be announced at the Committee Sessions)

March 27

- 9:30 A.M. Announcements
- 9:45 A.M. The National Garden Survey - How It Affects our Planning
B. S. Pickett, Head of Horticulture, Iowa State College
- 10:00 A.M. Effect of a Broad Garden Program on Reconversion
John W. Snyder, Director, Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion
- 10:20 A.M. Improved Home and Community Surroundings in the Housing Program
Wilson W. Wyatt, Administrator, National Housing Agency
- 10:40 A.M. Gardening and Community Improvement in National Planning Programs
Dr. E. J. Coil, Executive Director
National Planning Association
- 11:00 A.M. Gardening in the School Program
John W. Studebaker, Commissioner, U. S. Office of Education
- 11:20 A.M. Youth's Role in Today's and Tomorrow's Gardens
E. H. Bakken, Chairman, Garden Committee for National Youth Organizations
- 11:40 A.M. Garden Club Plans for a Continuing Program in Home Gardening and Civic Improvement
Mrs. William Champlin, Pres., National Council of State Garden Clubs
Eugene Pfister, Pres., Men's Garden Club of America
- 12:10 P.M. Announcements
- - - - -
- 2:00 P.M. The Need of Better Nutrition and Improved Home Surroundings for our Farm Families
Edward A. O'Neal, President,
American Farm Bureau Federation

March 27 (Cont'd)

- 2:20 P.M. The Benefits of Gardening to the Working Man's Family
 I. M. Ornburn, Chairman, Labor's Committee on Food
 and Nutrition, American Federation of Labor
- 2:40 P.M. Home Gardening and Its Effect on the Family Diet
 Mrs. Elizabeth Sasuly, Member, Labor's Committee on
 Food and Nutrition, Congress of Industrial
 Organization
- 3:00 P.M. Industry's Part in the Garden Program
 Lester J. Norris, Chairman, Industrial Advisory
 Committee, National Garden Institute
- 3:20 P.M. Report of Committees
- Discussion and Adoption of Reports and Recommendations

March 28

Plant Industry Station - Beltsville, Maryland

A visit to hear about and observe the latest research developments in gardening and horticulture at the Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Maryland. This will include a tour of the greenhouses and experimental plots to see work in progress with vegetables and ornamental crops. A special Beltsville program will be available at the Registration desk. Please indicate on your Registration card if you wish to go to Beltsville on March 28. Further announcements will be made at the sessions.

P R E S I D E N T T R U M A N S A Y S —

"During the war the Victory Gardeners made a magnificent contribution to the food production which was an important factor in winning the war. Food is still one of the most vital weapons in securing a lasting and stable peace. Farmers and Victory Gardeners of America must make every effort to help provide the additional food that is so sorely needed. The deep satisfaction that these food producers will receive from helping to relieve the critical starvation conditions abroad will be an additional reward for their extra efforts."

"A continuing program of gardening will be of great benefit to our people. In addition to the contribution gardens make to better nutrition, their value in providing outdoor physical exercise, recreation and relaxation from the strain of modern life is widely recognized. The Department of Agriculture through a long-time garden program can do much to encourage more attractive home surroundings and improved community development, and can provide a large body of citizens with much needed assistance in home gardening."

N A T I O N A L G A R D E N C O N F E R E N C E

Committee Sessions

3:00 P.M. - March 26, 1946

Committee No. One

Immediate Victory Garden Program
and Its Relation to Famine Emergency Program

- a. Policy on Ways and Means for attaining emergency national garden objectives.
- b. Public Relations and Information Services: press, radio, publications and advertising, motion pictures, urban information centers, etc.
- c. Integration of food garden program with Famine Emergency Relief program.
- d. New Ideas for quickly re-mobilizing the Nation's Victory Gardeners.
- e. How to get maximum results in Farm, City, Suburban, Industry and Community Gardens.
- f. Policy on working through and in coordination with State Agricultural Extension Services and other established State and local agencies.
- g. Appraisal of the situation of Garden supplies for 1946.

Committee No. Two

Conservation and Use of Food For Home, Community and Famine Relief

- a. Home Canning and storage.
- b. Community canning of temporary local abundances, home and commercial.
- c. Home canning supplies and equipment situation.
- d. School lunch and institution canning programs.
- e. UNRRA and other collections of foods for foreign relief.
- f. Adaptation of nutrition principles in coordinating garden program and foreign relief.

Committee No. Three

A Long-Time Garden Program for America

- a. Ideas and plans of garden leaders, and civic and community planners, on the place of a comprehensive garden program in American life.
- b. Recommendations on a long-time garden program to the Department's Home Garden Committee.

(OVER)

Committee No. Three (Cont'd)

- c. The part that can be played by Governmental and non-Governmental agencies in a broad Garden Program.
- d. Public relations and information support of a basic garden program, including leadership phases, Arbor Day Observance and other garden encouragement.
- e. Better living on the farm - more attractive farmsteads - better nutrition through better farm gardens.
- f. Gardening as an essential part of the National Housing Program, including the Veteran Housing Program.
- g. Planning for improved public grounds: parks, playgrounds, highways, cemeteries, blighted areas, etc.
- h. Community and urban planning, including individual home planning, the Dearborn Plan, the St. Charles Plan, etc.
- i. Industry employee gardens and improved factory surroundings.

Committee No. Four

Garden Activity by Youth

- a. Garden education in our schools.
- b. Youth organizations and the part they can play in the present emergency and the permanent garden programs for America.

Committee No. Five

Home Fruit Planting for Town and Country

- a. The role of the Home Orchard and fruit garden in better farm family nutrition.
- b. Fruit plantings in towns and suburbs - utilitarian and aesthetic values.
- c. Development of new control measures for pests. Encouragement of more research.
- d. Regional needs and varietal adaptation.

Committee No. Six

Research Needs of Home Gardeners.

- a. Research on home food garden problems.
- b. Research on ornamentals for home and community improvement.
- c. Research for better home and community planning.

OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIONAL GARDEN CONFERENCE

Paul C. Stark
Director, National Garden Program

This conference has two main objectives:

1. To re-mobilize the Victory Gardeners of the war years so that a maximum production will be obtained from city, suburban, town, and farm home gardens, thereby aiding in making more food available for the relief of starving people in Europe and Asia. The 1946 Victory Garden program is an essential part of President Truman's Famine Emergency Program.
2. To consider the benefits of a broad, continuing program in gardening, including home and community improvement, both urban and rural.

You are taking part in an historic conference - the task before you is no small one. Its success, both the immediate one of helping over 18 million Victory Gardeners get back on the job, and the long-time one of laying a basis for a permanent garden program, will depend to a large degree on your ideas, and your recommendations. During the war this country showed the world what a democracy can do. Let us now show the world that we are equally capable of handling in a big way some of the problems of the Peace. I know that a lot is expected of you in these few brief days we are meeting here together but you are seasoned garden leaders. You have gained during the war years the ability to cope with tough problems and get them done with dispatch.

For our part, I am sure that the national leaders, representing both private organizations and agencies, and those representing government, who will address you here today and tomorrow will give you ideas, and facts that will be helpful to you in your deliberations in your working committees. I feel that this National Garden Conference will be a history-making one, and one that as time goes by, you will consider as being a momentous occasion.

Congressional Record (April 2, 1946 - page A1975) Stated:-

The National Garden Conference called by Secretary of Agriculture Anderson was a remarkable demonstration of volunteer team work and cooperation by all phases of American Life. This inspiring coordination in a mighty home food-production program by the forces of agriculture, labor, industry, youth, and women's organizations, scientific groups, Government leaders, and many others, will go far in helping to win the war against world starvation.

Remarks by The Honorable Clarence Cannon,
Chairman, House Appropriation Committee

THE ACTION PLAN OF THE CONFERENCE

H. W. Hochbaum

Vice-Chairman, U. S. Department of
Agriculture's Garden Committee

This is the third National Garden Conference, and it is also the sixth year in which a national program will be developed for the guidance of our people. We here are very conscious of the great national influence of recommendations that past conferences have had in stimulating people everywhere to have gardens, and in building coordinated effort. The 18 - 20 million Victory gardens we have had every year during the war testify to that. Now though the war is over the need for Victory gardens is perhaps as great as ever if we on this side of the world are to help as we can in relieving the awful scarcity of food in so many countries of the world. Victory gardens, small as many may seem to be, in the aggregate can again produce an enormous amount of food which will substitute for other foods that may be sent abroad.

Committee Recommendations Will Constitute National Program

This conference as those of the past is designed as a work conference. Six committees are to be set up to consider the major groups of problems with which we are now concerned. These committees should give the fullest amount of time possible in the two days before us and agree upon recommendations for meeting those problems and develop recommendations which will constitute a national program. This program, with its recommendations drawn by the so representative groups, will I assure you again, have great influence not only on the immediate garden promotion which must be done, but also in increasing national interest in a long time program in home gardening and home and community improvement.

Laying Foundations of Lasting Program

We have succeeded in getting some exceptionally well qualified and leading persons to address this conference on the various problems involved in both the immediate and long time phases of our gardening needs. We are sure that the committee will succeed in combining the suggestions these speakers make with the needs which the committee members see. You all are so widely representative of the garden world, and so well qualified by experience and leadership, that your counseling together will result in recommended action which the nation will accept with confidence. You have a real part, a real opportunity in making our country more conscious of the great need before us in helping to alleviate distressful situations abroad. You also have a great responsibility and a fine opportunity to help us build on the tremendous interest the victory garden programs have developed, and lay the foundations of a lasting program in gardening, and home and civic improvement.

Urban Extension Agents Needed

The new extension funds will allow States to employ agents or assistant agents, to help urban and suburban people with problems of nutrition, food preservation, gardening, and home and civic beautification. The help given urban people with victory gardening and home food canning made millions of friends for the extension services and the Department. The need for these friends continues, as well as the need for more help and information in home-making and home gardening and food production. There is a great shift of city dwellers to suburban areas or small farms. They will need and will value the help we can give them.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 26, 1946

TO THE NATIONAL GARDEN CONFERENCE:

It is heartening to know that you are meeting today to remobilize the Nation's Victory Gardeners so that additional food will be produced, thereby making other foods available for hunger relief. Cooperation of Federal, State and local groups made a winning team for home garden production in the war years. I am gratified to see you continuing this teamwork.

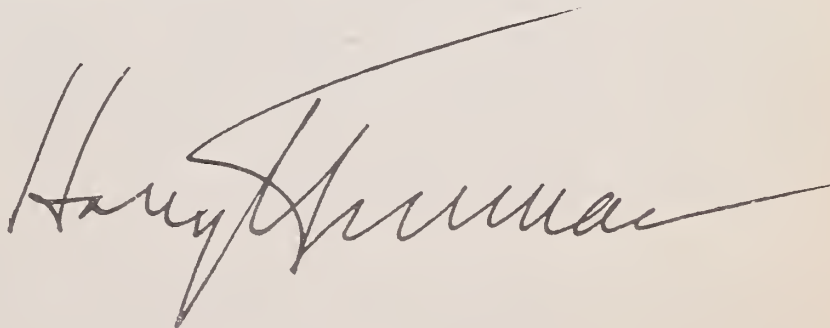
During war years home gardens contributed liberally to our national food supply. They helped make it possible for us to eat better than before the war, and at the same time supply the world's best-fed fighting forces and provide essential food supplies to our allies. If we had been short of food, it might have delayed the war's end.

The great conflict is over, but this is no time to let up -- not while hunger stalks the world. Food is today the most sought after commodity in the world. Literally millions of human beings in Europe and Asia are dying or are on the verge of starvation from lack of it. Hundreds of millions are suffering beyond our comprehension -- suffering from hunger, from malnutrition. We who are well fed cannot conceive the extent of that suffering.

We are now challenged to help win this global war against hunger. Hungry people make poor disciples of democracy. Food is still one of the most vital weapons in securing a lasting and stable peace. Growing more home gardens is one way to help. Every pound of food eaten fresh from the garden, or preserved for use next winter, will release an equivalent amount of food to be shipped to the starving millions.

I hope that at this meeting you will give attention to our own future needs. As a nation, we can still do much in improving our health by eating more of the nutritious foods from our gardens. But, we can also make life so much richer for many millions of our people if we can encourage them to improve their home grounds, their parks, their cities and the roads surrounding them.

Through your efforts we can keep organized this great army of Victory Gardeners who during the war learned the art of gardening.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Harry Truman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with long, sweeping strokes.

THE FOOD SITUATION - HOW GARDENING CAN HELP

Clinton P. Anderson
Secretary of Agriculture

Starvation Stalks Abroad

Everyone in this assembly knows that we are facing the most serious international food crisis of modern times. At least until the next harvest we shall be pressed to the limit of our ability to keep enough food supplies moving into stricken areas of the world to do our part in preventing widespread starvation. These food supplies will not assure well-balanced diets to the hungry people looking to us for help. They will do little more than to supply the small margin between life and death, the margin between minimum health protection and slow starvation.

At present we are ear-marking about 16 percent of the food supply available in this country for export--including relief needs. At least until the next harvest we shall need to ship every bit of food we can spare. And we can expect a continuation of the need for relief feeding in 1947. It will take another growing and harvest season to build up our own reserves again. Poor growing weather and poor crops abroad would result in continued urgent need abroad, just as bad weather here would cause food shortages in this country. We must prepare for all our needs and we must plan on producing considerable quantities above those needs, to provide a margin for safety.

During the war years you succeeded well. While husbands, fathers, and sons were fighting the enemy thousands of miles from home, almost half the families in America were tending Victory Gardens--growing Food for Freedom. Those 18 and a half million gardens were one of the big reasons why we were able to eat more and eat better during the war in spite of huge shipments to our armed forces and to our allies. During the war, as much as 40 percent of our fresh vegetable supply came from Victory Gardens. That was an amazing achievement.

Victory Gardens Will Release Food for Use Abroad

I think the President, the Famine Emergency Committee, and the Department of Agriculture have awakened everyone to the fact that, as far as the food situation is concerned, the pressure is not off. The pressure is greater now than ever. There are more people looking to us for food than ever before. There is more need for Victory Gardens in this first year of peace than there was in any year of the war. The war against famine is just reaching the stage of a decisive battle. If we lose this war we will jeopardize all that we gained on the battlefields.

In late February, President Truman called on home gardeners to continue their efforts in 1946, to produce and conserve food to help meet needs for foreign relief. Following the President's appeal, we called on all Governors, the mayors of our large cities, the Extension Directors, and many other leaders in national organizations, in industry, in radio, in the publishing business, and in many other fields to lend their efforts to a mighty garden campaign in 1946.

The response has been splendid. We have been assured of full cooperation by almost everyone we have called upon to help. We can interest many millions of families in having gardens this summer. Almost all those

who have had successful gardens in the past are interested in continuing. In addition, millions of returned servicemen are good prospects for new recruits to the ranks.

Successive Planting and Home Food Preservation Are Important

Almost half the Victory Gardeners who were interviewed last fall said they did not plant a second crop after the first crop was harvested. That would seem to be one of the shortcomings of our past programs that we might undertake to remedy this year. Another thing our surveys demonstrate is that people with gardens are far more likely to can and preserve some of their family's needs than people without gardens. This year it is highly important that our people do a lot of canning and preserving.

A Continuing Garden Program for a Nation of Gardeners

This conference will, I believe, assure the success of this year's Victory Garden campaign. I hope it will lay the foundation for a continuing garden program that will give every family in America an opportunity to enjoy a richer life through the recreation, the security and the general community improvement that more attractive grounds and gardens provide. I hope that through your planning and the program you develop here, America will be on its way to becoming a nation of gardeners--a nation in which every plot of good ground adds something to the beauty of our surroundings and the health of our people.

Home Gardens Contribute Much To Better Diets and Better Health

I think virtually all nutritionists will agree that the average American family should eat more vegetables. It has been proven by numerous studies that people who raise their own almost invariably eat more vegetables than people who don't. People who raise gardens say they eat more vegetables than they did before they had a garden. I suppose one reason for that is that people--and this applies especially to children--are more likely to eat things they grow themselves, regardless of personal likes and dislikes. A child who does not like vegetables will probably eat those he helped to raise--and chances are he'll learn to enjoy them. There is no question that gardens tend to improve eating habits by increasing consumption of vegetables. This benefits commercial producers and canners directly--and it means a healthier, better balanced diet for our people. I believe, for example, that the rapid rise in the popularity of tomatoes and increased consumption of commercial vegetables during recent years may be credited to a large extent to their widespread promotion through home gardening.

A Healthier, Happier and Stronger Nation

The National Garden Conference is another milestone on the road to a healthier, happier, and stronger nation. To the extent that the garden program will make it possible to ship more food abroad, it will improve the chances for enduring peace. It will make the world a better living place for our children and the generations to come. I look forward with confidence to the success of your undertaking.

HOW CRITICAL IS THE FOOD SITUATION ABROAD?

Roy F. Hendrickson
Deputy Director General, UNRRA

I endorse heartily the garden program because it is one of the steps in the right direction to produce and provide as much food as possible. No one needs to worry about surpluses in 1947 as great need not only has existed for some time but has increased within the last few months.

Some of the increasing shortages have not been foreseen, as for example the severe shortages in India caused by small crops and drought have only come to light in the past 6 or 7 weeks. Last fall there was no reason to believe that the crop would be as poor as it is.

Drought Takes Awful Toll

The principal reason for the development of shortages at the present time is that insufficient attention was paid last summer to the drought in the Mediterranean areas. This drought caused a short crop in Italy, France, Greece, and other Mediterranean areas. Wheat was not even half a crop. Now despite the substantial assistance which has been provided, the next 120 days will bring the worst crisis of all, although it is likely that the situation will remain critical into next year. The present situation as to stocks of grain on hand and the required monthly issue at stated daily average grams of consumption or rationing levels now in effect are estimated for Greece, Italy, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Poland as follows:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Amount of grain on hand</u>	<u>Rate of daily ration</u>	<u>Amount required at THAT RATE MONTHLY</u>
Greece	26,000 tons	320 grams	62,000 tons
Italy	17,000 tons	225 grams	252,000 tons
Yugoslavia	28,000 tons	300 grams	56,000 tons
Czechoslovakia	133,000 tons	291 grams	116,000 tons
Poland	163,000 tons		119,000 tons

China has not been included in these estimates for, although the need is greater there than anywhere, it has not been possible to transport the needed supplies. In one province people have starved while in others they have had surpluses... The 50 or 60 thousand tons of food a month they are taking is all they have been able to distribute. In addition to other demands, India and China are having to turn to wheat-producing sections of the world for help, because there is a substantial shortage of rice. The critical situation in Italy and Greece will continue even with a good crop because they are normally deficit areas. There will also be a continuing need in China. India will not improve its food production for a long while.

Everyone Here Should Help by Producing and Saving Food

For these reasons there ~~may~~ be another shortage in 1946-47 and we should plan accordingly. Every contribution, whether through reduced personal consumption, use of a higher extraction rate for flour, or other means, will be helpful. I hope that every American will produce all he can whether it is on a farm or on a back lot, because the need will continue for a long time ahead.

THE ACTION PROGRAM OF THE PRESIDENT'S FAMINE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

Chester C. Davis

Chairman of the Famine Emergency Committee

The greatest concern of the Famine Emergency Committee at this time is...to make sure that enough food is produced and saved to meet our goals for foreign relief and to exceed them if possible. In our efforts to save people from starvation in other parts of the world, we do not wish to invite the danger of widespread hunger in this country next winter. Considering the food outlook in general terms it is not likely that we shall fare any worse in the year ahead than we have fared in the last two or three years.

But there will be some shortages. Besides the shortage of wheat there will be a shortage of fats and oils.... There may be shortages of canned foods next fall and winter... And as long as consumer demand continues to take about everything the market offers, it is possible that other shortages may develop...

Gardens Protect Against Shortages

This year we shall need millions of gardens -- millions of backyard food producers. Gardens in 1946 will help us conserve wheat by giving our families extra vegetables to make up for less bread and cereal...Potatoes, for example, can substitute for bread in many ways. Gardens will provide a cushion against shortages which may develop here and there in the critical months. Gardens will enable many more people to can and preserve foods, making it possible for them to donate more to collection campaigns for foreign relief. Gardens, in short, will help us meet our goals for export and protect us against shortages at home....

You may be interested in knowing that gardens all over the world will be grown with American seed this year. For every eight pounds of vegetable seed we plant, one pound is sent abroad. All told, the United States will ship about 30 million pounds of vegetable seeds to 37 different nations this year. On an average, a pound of seed sent abroad will produce about a thousand pounds of food....

We are assured, by reports reaching us from all over the world, that the people of the famine-stricken areas are doing everything in their power to get back into full-scale production... In Europe, farmers are partially overcoming the serious shortage of draft power and equipment by pooling and sharing and by using hand implements. City workers are helping on farms and taking their pay in food. All over Europe, collective gardens are in operation.

The More Gardens We Have - The More Lives We Can Save

I want you to see the National Garden Program this year as I see it, in relation to the general campaign against famine that is being fought on many fronts. Our pressing need is to get sufficient quantities of food into the regions of the world where it is needed to save lives -- and to get it there in time. In order to do this we must first assure that there are ample supplies of such foods available for export. To assure these supplies we are taking drastic steps to conserve what we have on hand and to produce more in the months just ahead. Victory gardens will make it possible to conserve more food and to produce more food in 1946. The more gardens we have and the better gardens they are, the more food we can send abroad -- the more lives we can save.

WHAT GARDENING CAN DO FOR AMERICA

Henry A. Wallace
Secretary of Commerce

Hopes We Will Always Have Victory Gardens

Mr. Stark is quite right with regard to victory gardening. I do practice what I preach. I was out in the garden this morning for an hour and a half, from half past six to eight, and I've got ten rows of peas up, each of them about 80 feet long. My first strawberry blooms are open that I grew from seed. I hope there will always be victory gardens. The only sad thing about the end of the war was the fact that the pressure was off victory gardens. Every victory gardener felt that he was really contributing something to the good of humanity, and when the pressure was off, the urgency was off, it made me a little sad to see some of the victory gardeners were not going to put in gardens this year. But we discovered very unfortunately a few months ago that lots of things have gone wrong with the world food situation. It is amazing how many things suddenly piled on top of us. It never rains but it pours. First the news came that the French drought and the North African drought were worse than anticipated. There was drought in South Africa, a failure of the monsoons in India which was worse than was anticipated. More recently the weather in India changed for the better, but the drought is still very serious. Many millions will die in India in the next few months. Undoubtedly the world-wide need for wheat is more than twice that which can be supplied by the exporting areas. There is no question about that.

Effect of 1700 Calories Per Day

Two or three weeks ago in the New York Times I read about experiments with conscientious objectors at the University of Minnesota. They were fed 1700 calories a day and as a result they fell into grave despondency and all kinds of psychoneurotic disorders developed. It was really very serious.

It could be assumed, I think, that the people of Europe that are living on 1700 calories would have to work at least as hard as these young men were working. It is amazing how many people in Europe are supposed to get along on 1700 calories. This is subject to correction and is a very rough estimate, but I would say that over 150,000,000 are going to find it necessary to get along on less than 1700 calories during the next four months. Does anyone here have reason to question that? As I say, that is a very rough approximation and really to some extent a guess, a rapid summing up of the story as I have heard it.

Now We Need Gardens More Than Ever

There has been some word passed around quietly that the situation in Europe is not as serious as we have been led to believe. When that has been put to people in UNRRA and those closer to the situation perhaps, the word comes that the tapering off of the number of calories available is now coming in a truly serious way and probably there will be more people in the world hungry during the next three months than there ever have been in any other three months in the world's history. It behooves us here in the United States where we are getting twice as much to eat as the 150,000,000 poorest fed people in Europe to see what we may do in the way of re-arranging our diet and what we may do in the war of increasing food production.

Victory Gardeners Can Release Many Calories

I think it is a marvelous thing that the victory gardeners are preparing to help again this year. I think they have perhaps more reason to work this year than they did in any of the preceding years. If every victory gardener by his activity can release an extra thousand calories a day from his family for a three-month period by reason of the garden, that would make a tremendous difference. It might make a difference, I would say, of more than a million lives. So I hope we will go at our work with the utmost vigor.

I don't propose to give you any advice here on how to grow a victory garden. I might try to give you a little stimulus toward enjoying a victory garden. To me there are two parts to the day; one part the early morning when the birds are singing, the sun is rising, you can see some dew on the leaves that are unfolding and you can get a gentle sweat up, and life seems totally different than from the part of the day when you are listening to all the woes of humanity--not but what it is good for you to listen to all the woes of humanity. I wouldn't decry that; when you have to engage in many types of adjustment with many kinds of people. That is all to the good. But I do believe for the sake of psychic health it is essential to have some time in direct contact with the air and the sun.... I hope there are always victory gardens. Because of the psychic benefit that can come from soil contact, every last one of us who can work on the land should do so. I hope if you don't have land of your own that you can persuade people you know to let you have land. There are always new kinds of things to experiment with.

Good Psychic and Physical Health Also Reward the Victory Gardener

I suspect I am too sold on victory gardens to make a successful talk here. I don't have any message really except to urge you to do your best this year and to keep it up next year. You know we could have a really serious food situation this year if there were a drought in the Corn Belt. An awful lot depends on the weather. It could be very necessary next year to have a victory garden.... I hope we still have them after the necessity has passed because it is good for our psychic health, even better than for our physical health although the Minnesota experiment would indicate that physical and psychic health are more closely connected than we ever suspected.

WHY THE GOVERNMENT MUST ENCOURAGE THE GARDEN PROGRAM

Representative Clarence Cannon
Chairman, House Appropriation Committee

Throughout the war period a magnificent job has been done by Victory Gardeners. It has been estimated that nearly 50,000,000 people worked in victory gardens, producing approximately 40 percent of the fresh vegetables consumed in the United States during the war.

The value of their service cannot be measured alone by the volume and value of the food produced. Millions of men, women and children have been trained and experienced in food production. They constitute an invaluable asset, a reserve food army. This interest and "know how" of gardening must be kept alive and encouraged.

Help Win War Against Hunger

In the present Famine emergency crisis--these millions of patriotic and humanitarian citizens are being remobilized and with their victory gardening experience are in position to help win another war against hunger.

They will produce vast amounts of food and help to save millions of lives which otherwise might be lost. Both for the sake of present needs and future emergencies this great reserve food army must be maintained, trained and encouraged. The present world famine emergency is an example of such an emergency, and the Famine Emergency Committee is to be commended on making the victory garden program one of the important and essential parts of the famine relief program. The value of the gardening program does not end with the alleviation of current needs. When the food war is over and the world gets back to normal food conditions, many gardeners will turn to other types of gardening around their home. They have learned to love the soil and will find in their interest in growing things both health and enjoyment and with each returning spring-time a renewed interest in outdoor life. Nothing contributes so directly to the development of culture and civic progress as beautiful gardens and attractive plantings. It provides a safer and more wholesome environment, a better home in which to rear our children. Farm homes likewise need gardening and horticultural settings to help hold our boys and girls on the farm. And ~~to make~~ farm life more attractive.

Great Value of Gardening to Our Health and National Economy

Gardening is a splendid pastime--one that gives relaxation and health of body and mind. Home growing of fruits and vegetables is a great hobby and one that personally has always afforded me both pleasure and relaxation. It is a privilege to entertain friends in your own home garden and I commend to all who will take a little unmissed time the pleasure of picking from your own trees and gardens fruits and vegetables in the freshness and prime of complete maturity at every season of the year save winter.

Well planted grounds are good constructive investments which will add value to our homes. It is good business for any community to maintain homes and parks and other beauty spots to attract the public. It is a material as well as an aesthetic investment.

In Congress you gardeners have many loyal and enthusiastic friends who want to do what they can to further this great movement. They can

appreciate how much it means towards better nutrition, better living and a happier and stronger nation.

On March 11 of this year we discussed on the floor of the House the contribution by Victory Gardeners to the war effort. Now that the Famine Emergency Committee has again called Victory Gardeners to the colors to help win the war against starvation we want to again emphasize the deep obligation the Government has to you gardeners.

Service for Gardeners from Department of Agriculture

May I say again: "I wish to pay the highest tribute to these men and women who have contributed this loyal service. Many of whom have learned to love the work in the soil. They want to continue it in the future, not only in growing vegetables but in working in the broad phases of gardening that will improve and enhance the home and tend toward a happier family home life. These people in their work in the soil should be given every encouragement and assistance. During the war the United States Department of Agriculture has done an excellent job in assisting and guiding these home gardeners. The Department in this program has worked through, and in cooperation with, the State agricultural colleges, the Cooperative Extension Service, and other State and private agencies. Knowing that the home gardeners are requesting this service from the Department of Agriculture, we want them to realize that we appreciate and recognize their right to receive efficient and adequate assistance from the Department. These home gardeners in the country, towns, and cities have had a little professional experience, but they have produced a surprising volume of wholesome food. Although they are not commercial farmers, they are, nevertheless, true tillers of the soil; they are taxpayers and are helping to support the Department of Agriculture and must receive any and all service the Department is in a position to render."

Permanent Garden Program Greatly Benefits Agriculture and National Economy

In this National Garden Conference you gardeners have demonstrated the feasibility of enlisting all branches of American industry in the battle against starvation. You are likewise demonstrating the advantages of a permanent program and the continuing benefits to be derived from systematic gardening both for the individual and the nation as a whole.

The health and wholesome enjoyment, and the material economic returns accruing to the gardener, not to mention the development of valuable national resources, justify the Department of Agriculture in lending every encouragement and supplying every service and facility for the advancement of the program. It is a service which should be extended to all phases of gardening and horticulture, including the improvement of home grounds and the development of more attractive communities.

The enriching experience of this widely distributed army of gardeners, comprising something like 50 million people, will serve to bring the country to a better understanding of the farmer's many problems, and a keener appreciation of his service to the nation and will, to that extent, contribute to a more unified and stronger national economy.

This better understanding between Agriculture and the industries which supply the needs and consume the products of the farm will build a good-will and a mutual understanding which will carry us far along the road to a completely prosperous and cultured American commonwealth.

IMPORTANCE OF VEGETABLES AND FRUITS IN MEETING NUTRITION NEEDS

Frank G. Boudreau, M.D.
Chairman, Food and Nutrition Board
of the National Research Council

It is inspiring to realize that we who are conferring here today, have a share in the success of UNO. Other international conferences have been held and more will be convened in the future to deal with the numerous political and economic problems which face the world today. It is unlikely that any of these conferences will bring peace to the world while millions of its people live in daily fear of starvation.....

Abroad, homes and plants are destroyed, millions are scattered as refugees. They need everything: seeds, fertilizer, lumber, artificial limbs, food, transportation; there is almost no article in common use among men which they do not lack... Everywhere is the pervading anxiety and gloom of hunger. I do not wish to exaggerate the situation yet when I think of it in terms of human beings, like you and me, I shiver with the scantily clothed hungry child coming from a fireless home or cave, and suffer with the men and women trying to build up anew their broken and shattered lives. No progress can be made on the road to peace until these neighbors of ours have been fed and clothed and housed. Peace cannot be built on political agreements alone. It must rest on a foundation of satisfied human needs, and on friendly relationships between peoples.

Food Meant Victory

Food was one of the decisive factors in the first World War. It was of even greater importance in the second World War. When food was needed during the war, in greater quantities than we had ever produced before, our farmers and gardeners rose to the occasion. We produced enough food for our Allies and we fed our armed forces and our people better than they had ever been fed before. Food meant victory to ourselves and our Allies, and we spared no pains to produce it in abundance. Food also meant health to our people..... Now we must complete our victory by restoring our friends overseas to health..... The urgent need in Europe to prevent acute and prolonged starvation can be met only through the cooperation of virtually every family in this country.

Now Food Is Needed to Gain Victory Over Famine and Disease

Epidemics have always found their most fertile soil among the starving and the malnourished. We have more powerful defenses against epidemic disease than ever before, but the best defense is prevention. Epidemic disease does not, as a rule, spread rapidly among the well fed. By helping to feed our neighbors we help to protect our own families, for with modern methods of transport epidemics respect no boundaries.

Vegetables and Fruits Rank High Among Protective Foods

My task is to speak of the importance of vegetables and fruits in meeting nutrition needs. These rank high among the protective foods... Our appreciation of their nutritional value is something relatively new... A great surprise in nutrition studies, says Dr. McCollum, was the discovery of the remarkable dietary qualities possessed by the leaves of plants where these are edible. The leaf of the plant is a complete food, rich in actively functioning cells. Those cells contain everything which is necessary for

the metabolic processes; and they supply all the nutrients which an animal requires. This is not, however, an argument for vegetarianism, since man's needs are not necessarily identical with those of domestic animals....

Fruits are outstanding in two respects: for their flavors and for their anti-scorbutic properties. I need not remind you of the value of the love apple or tomato, which is a cheap source of ascorbic acid, popularly known as Vitamin C. Apples, pears, peaches, and apricots also contain this valuable nutrient but in smaller amounts... The berries resemble the fruits in nutritive properties and in richness of flavor. Raised in the home garden and brought fresh to the table, they are subjects both for the poet and for the serious minded nutritionist. All of the fruits and most of the vegetables when fresh or properly cooked contain a vitamin which does not figure in nutrition textbooks. It is vitamin Z, the zest vitamin, which causes the mouth to water and makes eating one of life's pleasures.

Vegetables and Fruits Overcome Most Common Deficiencies of Diets

Vegetables and fruits do not, as a rule, supply much energy, but energy value is easily obtained from other foods. Moreover, those who have a tendency to obesity, which is common in this country among men and women leading sedentary lives, need to get their iron, calcium and other minerals and vitamins without taking in much energy. This they can do from vegetables and fruits.

Increased consumption of vegetables and fruits would greatly improve the American diet and it would help to overcome its most common deficiencies. Vegetables and fruit taken as a group, states Dr. Sherman, may be ranked next after grain products and milk in importance as constituents of an economical and well-balanced diet. They tend to correct both the mineral and vitamin deficiencies of the grain products and in a sense they supplement the milk also in that many of the vegetables and fruits are rich in iron or vitamin C or both. Increasing use of vegetables and fruits seems to improve the food value of the diet at every point at which the American dietary is likely to need improvement.

Preservation of the Characteristics of Youth

What is likely to happen if we succeed in improving the American dietary by means of a greater consumption of vegetables and fruits? The relation between diet and health is a very close one. The best fed peoples are invariably the most healthy. According to McCollum and Simmonds the liberal use of the protective foods means "the preservation of the characteristics of youth". The larger the percentage of calories taken in the form of the protective foods, the smaller was the percentage of failure in the preservation of the characteristics of youth.

The protective foods, among which vegetables and fruit are high, will do more for the women of America than all the beauty shops, and unlike the beauty shops, men and boys are also admitted to their benefits.

According to Doctor Sherman, the available evidence as a whole seems to justify the conclusion that preservation of the characteristics of youth and extension of the prime of life are very significantly aided by the taking of a liberal proportion of the needed calories in the form of the protective foods.

Gardens Help Build Peaceful World and Improve Nutrition of Americans

This is the beginning of a great campaign to save food for our friends abroad while improving the nutrition of the American people. By raising and consuming more vegetables and fruit we shall need less cereals and other energy foods. Cereals are ideal for shipment abroad; they have been throughout the ages the great remedy for famine. So in addition to all the other advantages which home gardeners enjoy, they can have the satisfaction of knowing that they are helping to build the foundations of a more peaceful world....

Dividends From Victory Gardens

When winter comes again I can imagine a typical home gardener's family sitting around the fire, thinking with satisfaction of their part in the relief of famine abroad, and looking forward to appetizing meals throughout the cold months because of their store of canned and preserved vegetables and fruit. Father looks younger than he has for years; those sagging abdominal muscles have tightened up a bit, and he has lost some excess weight. That tired feeling has left mother and there are dimples in her cheeks and a smile on her face. Beneath the sunburn on the children's cheeks glows the rich red dye of health. These physical benefits are accompanied by the stimulation of interest in the new world of soils, plant growth, and insects; the family has come closer to nature than ever before, and as always nature has laid on them her healing touch.

Vegetables and Fruits Have Great Nutritive Value

This may sound like a fanciful account of the benefits of home gardens. But I can assure you that it is based on fact. Nothing was more surprising to the old student of nutrition than the discovery that vegetables and fruit have great nutritive value. This discovery has been amply confirmed in practice. Clear eyes, good complexions, sound gums, good digestion and proper elimination are some of the rewards of home gardener.

His best reward will be the knowledge that by saving food for shipment abroad he is an active partner in man's most ambitious undertaking, building a solid foundation for world unity.

GARDENING FOR GOOD HEALTH AND HAPPIER LIVING

Dr. Thomas Parran

Surgeon General, Public Health Service

No one could have spent six weeks in Europe as I have just done and not realize that hunger and fear of starvation are the two tragic realities in the lives of millions of people on that continent. In order to supply them with the food which we have promised, we need to grow more food this year. Our farmers will produce the maximum possible amount but that maximum is not enough. In order to increase the total food output, we must tap the latent possibilities of the non-farmer groups. This is the basic reason for a Home Gardening Program.

Fruits and Vegetables Strengthen the American Diet

But a successful, widespread gardening program will accomplish much more than just increasing the total food output. In our gardens we will produce mostly fruits and vegetables and with the reduction in supplies of available fats and grains, we will consume more of the products we have grown. This will tend to strengthen the American diet and will play a vital part in building and maintaining a healthful vigorous Nation.

All of us in public health appreciate the importance of nutrition in preventive medicine. Good health is the best barrier to the spread of disease that I know of, and dynamic, vigorous health cannot be attained without good nutrition. The American dietary is deficient in minerals and vitamins. Fresh garden vegetables are an excellent source of these essentials for good nutrition.

Gardening Relieves Mental and Physical Tensions

In addition to increasing the total amount of food and improving the quality of the American diet, home gardening has additional health-giving values. Good health means more than the absence of disease; it means more than good nutrition. Good health is a state of physical, mental and emotional fitness. Home gardening can contribute to such a state of health. It furnishes outdoor exercise in the fresh air and sunshine, - exercise which can be geared to the physical capacity of everyone, old and young. Such exercise relieves mental and physical tensions, produces relaxation, and promotes harmonious physical development. Gardening is creative; it is a release from the strain and boredom of living and working in an urban environment. It is a counterbalance for the restricted lives which most office and factory workers lead. Those who work under constant mental strain in a high tension environment are particularly benefited by the physical and mental relaxation of gardening.

Better Family Health and Broader More Fundamental Lives

If the whole family can participate in a home garden project, so much the better. It furnishes a good opportunity for us to get acquainted with our children and for our children to get acquainted with us through sharing in a common creative task. Family ties are strengthened and the total health of the family thereby promoted.

Gardening awakens an interest in the never-ending mysteries of nature, prods our curiosity, challenges our skill, and provides a stern, if silent, opponent. It has a beneficial effect not alone reflected in the diet, but also in the perception of a broader, more fundamental design of life. Now, in these troubled times, we have need of such perception.

EFFECT OF A BROAD GARDEN PROGRAM ON RECONVERSION

John W. Snyder

Director, War Mobilization and Reconversion

My interest in a national gardening program at this particular time is most intensive. A successful garden program during the next year will make our job of reconversion easier and will expedite our return to full peacetime economy.

We have in America about three million people out of work. That means about three million people whose families are more or less insecure. These people are our own war victims. They, too, must eat. These people constitute a possible threat to full peacetime production. Unemployment breeds unemployment. We must not permit these people to spend all their savings, to use up all their resources, and to become public charges. When they cease to produce and to consume, they may throw others out of work and start our economy downhill again. I do not prophecy that such will take place any time soon, but I mention that possibility as the logical result if our reconversion does not move fast enough.

A Long Time Garden Program Means More Jobs

It seems to me that a national gardening program is made to order for these three million who are now unemployed. A long-time program of home and community improvement means more jobs. The result of this type of work is a continuing increase in the attractiveness of our parks, highways, towns, cities and farms. It is a good productive investment that will help to stabilize our real estate values and assist in preventing blighted areas in our cities and towns.

Another way in which it seems to me that a national program of gardens can be of great benefit to our peacetime economy - not only this year but in the years to come - is through the recreation that such projects provide. Most people are working shorter hours than they were during the war. Unfortunately, giving people more leisure time seems to add to our problems of the moment rather than diminish them. The reason is that we do not have enough facilities for off-hours recreation. During the war we could not continue building swimming pools, playgrounds, tennis courts, and other places for the family to play and relax. It will be a long time before we are caught up with the need for such facilities. Meanwhile, every family that has a plot of reasonably good ground, no matter how small, has all that it needs to furnish recreation and relaxation to the whole family, all summer long. That, of course, is aside from the more important fact that these leisure-time gardens will play a big part in breaking the famine that now looms over the world. I think it would be well for this conference to give considerable attention to selling the idea of permanent gardens to those people in business and industry who now have more free time than ever---most of them two whole days every week -- to devote to this pleasant and profitable activity.

I might point out here that gardening is practically the only way in which at least half the families in America can help produce -- with the materials at hand -- one of the raw materials that is most sorely needed in these critical days -- FOOD. The average family can get along with a rake, a hoe, a spading fork, and a watering hose. I can't think of any activity that will produce so much with so little expenditure of scarce materials.

Must We Create New Slums?

Another reason I am wholeheartedly behind you in this undertaking is my interest in stabilizing the communities that have mushroomed up around war plants in the last few years. I have seen acres of housing projects that were stark and drab, naked of trees, shrubs, flowers, and other growing things. There was no time and no labor to beautify these communities under the pressure to get the tanks and planes and jeeps to the battlefront. We are in danger of creating new slums, wrecking property values, and forcing widespread abandonment in and around these war-born communities unless we can stabilize them and make them attractive places to live. Flowers and vegetable gardens, trees and vines, nothing adds more to the appearance, the enjoyment and the permanence of a community than these. We must sell this program in the towns and cities where these barren neighborhoods exist.

Gardeners Are Not Entirely at the Mercy of Their Jobs

Victory Gardens may be a step along the road toward a more balanced economy in the years ahead -- an economy in which people who work for wages are not entirely at the mercy of their jobs. We may be driving toward the day in which every industrial worker will have his own little food factory -- his own garden or small farm out of which he can be sure of supplying a part of his family's food needs. If we had had a national gardening program in full operation in the late '20's we might have weathered the early '30's in far better shape.

Gardens Help to Prevent Skyrocketing of Prices

Finally, I should like to point out the relationship between a successful gardening program in these critical times and the war against inflation, which still goes on. The main reason for high prices may still be found in the old law of supply and demand. Nowhere does that law work with more deadly certainty than in the food market. Since food is one of the most important items in our national budget, the effect of supply and demand on the price of food is one of the major concerns of us who are trying to prevent a postwar skyrocketing of prices.

Gardens Cut Living Costs and Help Prevent Inflation

One of the easiest, quickest, and fairest ways to prevent inflation of food prices out of all reason is to supplement the civilian supply with home-grown foods -- as much home-grown produce as we can raise this year. Some families will live out of their gardens almost twelve months a year -- canning and preserving what they don't eat fresh. Others will be content with fresh vegetables in season. Still others will merely grow a few extras in their gardens to supplement what they buy. They are all helping keep the cost of living down -- not only for themselves, but also for those who cannot grow their own and must depend upon commercial supplies. Anything that adds to the supply of food helps keep consumer prices down. Anything that reduces demand for food also helps keep consumer prices down. A national garden program does both. And to anyone who is worried that there may not be a demand for all that farmers will produce this year, I think we can say that it looks like the world will need every pound of food we can produce and then some. ... We must make every possible effort to slow down the rate of starvation in the less fortunate countries.

WHAT SELECTIVE SERVICE TAUGHT US ABOUT NUTRITION

Major General Lewis B. Hershey
Director of the Selective Service System

About 5 million Americans, when examined for the draft, were not able to pass the physical standards set up by the Armed Forces. Of the 15 million who were accepted, millions had something wrong with them -- for example, about 98 percent had defects in their teeth...We have estimated that, while only 3 or 4 percent of the difficulties were due wholly to nutritional causes, 40 percent were caused by things that had their roots in either something the men ate or failed to eat. The fact that many of these people had enough to eat did not make them properly fed...The highest rejection rate was due to mental disease. Mental disease has a connection with gardening, both through eating habits and working habits.

It is my firm belief that if the hundreds, thousands, and millions of people who are psychotic, neurotic, and emotionally immature could get back to working with the soil they would develop stability. If they work hard physically, there will not be much trouble in getting them to eat what they ought to eat...Here is an opportunity to try to turn back the tendency of people to run away from the physical. Mental health can be combined with producing something to eat...We learned from the draft that many young men do not eat enough and many do not eat the right kind of food. We also learned that many did not do the right kind of work often enough. Gardening will provide both food and the right kind of work.

THE NEED OF BETTER NUTRITION AND IMPROVED HOME SURROUNDINGS FOR OUR FARM FAMILIES

1946 MARCH 25

PAUL C. STARK, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL GARDEN PROGRAM, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

REGRET THAT UNAVOIDABLE CIRCUMSTANCES PREVENT MY ATTENDING THE NATIONAL GARDEN CONFERENCE. WISH YOU ALL SUCCESS IN BRINGING ABOUT CONTINUATION OF LAST FEW YEARS GREAT PRODUCTION OF HOME GROWN VEGETABLES WHICH HELPED MIGHTILY IN ACHIEVING OUR HUGE FOOD PRODUCTION GOAL. CRITICAL NEED CONTINUES AND FARMERS AND OTHER CITIZENS CAN MAKE ANOTHER CONTRIBUTION OF FIRST MAGNITUDE IN MEETING THAT NEED. IN ADDITION TO HELPING RELIEVE FAMINE IN OTHER PARTS OF WORLD CONTINUED HIGH PRODUCTION OF HOME GARDENS MEANS BETTER NUTRITION AND HEALTH FOR OUR OWN PEOPLE. WE MUST DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO MAKE OUR FARM HOMES MORE APPEALING TO OUR FARM FAMILIES AND PARTICULARLY OUR BOYS AND GIRLS WHO ARE NEEDED TO CARRY FORWARD AMERICAN AGRICULTURE ON A HIGH PLANE. WELL PLANTED AND IMPROVED FARM HOMESTEADS HELP TO INCREASE AND STABILIZE FARM VALUES. WE MUST DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, PROSPERITY AND HAPPINESS OF OUR FARM FAMILIES.

/s/ EDW A. O'NEAL, PRESIDENT
 AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

NATION'S LARGEST HOME BUILDING PROGRAM

Wilson W. Wyatt

Administrator, National Housing Agency

You who have read the report I made to the President on the Veterans Emergency Housing Program know that we have set as the goal we must meet the largest building program this nation has ever known. This must not merely be the goal of those who are working in federal housing agencies -- I hope it will be the goal of all Americans who believe our returning veterans should have homes in which to resume normal civilian life with their families.

Community Action and Team Work Necessary For Better Living

When we set this goal we counted on all Americans as members of our team and accordingly we set up community action as one of our keystones. We are asking every community to set up an Emergency Housing Committee to survey its local needs and to lay plans to meet them as part of the overall national program. I know you are all convinced of the seriousness of the emergency and are willing to do your utmost to dissolve it. As a group devoted to improving your communities, to bringing about better and pleasanter living for everyone, you, I know, are interested in what kind of housing we propose that the nation provide for the veterans. Statistically I can tell you this--we propose the starting of 2,700,000 medium and low-cost homes by the end of next year.

The Importance of "Outdoor Living Rooms"

We all know that we must do more than just provide the veteran with a floor, four walls and a roof. That doesn't make a home. He wants a design of house that appeals to him; he wants comfortable attractive furnishings inside it and he wants a pleasant yard around his home. Most every veteran will want a place where he and his wife can grow flowers and shrubs and many will want enough ground to grow vegetables as well.

You know as well as I do the importance of elbow room around a man's home, of space to relax--to build an "outdoor living room". You know as well as I do the benefits which accrue to a community from such types of housing--how the cost of crime and disease that festers in city slum jungles is cut down by sunshine and fresh air and the other things that make a better environment.

Community Benefits of Attractively Landscaped Grounds

All this leads me back to what I started earlier--that the community is one of the keystones of our program. It is the community which can plan so that the veterans's homes can be built on attractive lots, so that group housing and slum clearance housing can be set up on attractively landscaped grounds.

The first task is to get the veterans some kind of shelter for themselves and their families. The next task is to get them attractive permanent homes.

But I want all of you here to know that I think as you do--that four bare walls and a plot of ground are not enough. I want to set our sights high--to achieve better homes and better living for Americans than any nation has ever known before.

I am sure that all of you will help us to do the job--and to do the job right.

THE IMPORTANCE OF GARDENING TO THE FUTURE OF THE NATION

M. L. Wilson

Director of Extension, U. S. Department of Agriculture

There are many things to be said about the importance of home gardens in relation to the food situation and the humanitarian aspects of the saving of lives in the civilized world today. Secretary Anderson and some of the others on this morning's program have gone fully into that. But there is another aspect of gardening that is very important for the consideration of your conference this week.

On March 11, Congressman Clarence Cannon of Missouri gave an address on the floor of the House of Representatives in tribute to victory gardeners and their contributions to the food needs of the world. In that address, Congressman Cannon said:

"They want to continue it in the future, not only in growing vegetables, but in working in the broad phases of gardening that will improve and enhance the home grounds and tend toward a happier family life."

That is a significant statement to be made in Congress. It summarizes in one brief sentence the fundamental aim and purpose of gardening in our national life. It comes appropriately from a man who is not only a great parliamentarian, but an authority on history and a practical horticulturist.

New Point of View on Human Development

There is a trend in higher education now which is becoming more and more pronounced in many of our colleges and universities. By way of illustration I might mention the University of Chicago. It has set up a committee to coordinate all of the sciences dealing with man -- the biological sciences, the psychological sciences, and the social and cultural sciences -- so that the student gets a concept of the nature of man, his development, and his needs.

Horticulture and Healthful Living

Considering this kind of academic education, which places great emphasis on human development, it seems that the field of horticultural science, and its application in practice, would have a tremendous contribution to make. Horticultural science and horticultural skill, like any other skill, deals with knowledge that has to be studied and understood. Its development, all the time, requires people's interest in horticulture and such interest in developing as we have seen in the victory garden program. Horticultural science, I would say, includes knowledge in the field of genetic science, plant insects and diseases, the newer knowledge about fertilizers, plant nutrition, and the like.

We need gardening education of this kind as the tremendous response to war-time victory gardening has shown. The growing of plants -- not only vegetables and fruits, but trees, shrubs, and flowers -- can be a real asset to the advancement of modern living, rural and urban. Horticulture is one of the arts which it is necessary for more and more people to take part in if we are to follow the advanced concept of the individual person being most fully developed educationally to fit into modern, civilized society.

Trade, Press and Professional Participation Needed

If we are to have general understanding of the simpler phases of horticultural science, and broad application of the art of horticulture, then such continued emphasis on gardens as we had during the war, and as your conference plans to urge as a continuing proposition, appears essential. That means enthusiastic participation and leadership everywhere of the horticultural trade -- seed and nurserymen, large and small; trade associations; professional horticulturists and horticultural societies; civic associations; town and city administrators; garden clubs; garden editors; garden writers and garden magazine publishers; 4-H Club and other Extension cooperating groups; leaders in educational circles, teachers in the schools as well as the colleges and universities; citizen's garden committees; industrial leaders sponsoring garden programs for workers; worker garden clubs; and the host of other victory garden enthusiasts represented here and having a genuine interest and responsibility in the continued promotion of more and better gardening as a part of modern life. I hope that all of you will get better acquainted with the services and cooperation along gardening lines which you can get from the Department of Agriculture and the cooperating agricultural colleges and State and county extension services.

What Farm People Are Doing

In the way of a report, I can say that many of the State extension services are rapidly incorporating garden programs such as landscape and farmstead beautification into their teaching. I should also say that they are finding many people with a high enthusiasm for these projects. Last year over 88 hundred 4-H Club boys and 90 thousand girls were enrolled in home ground beautification work and a total of about 175 thousand farm men and women were extension cooperators in home ground improvement. State agricultural colleges are aware of the importance of the broader aspects of gardening and in many States they are pushing it hard through the Cooperative Extension Service.

City Horticultural Agents Needed

Although the Smith-Lever Act states that the purpose of cooperative extension work is ". . . to aid in diffusing among the people of the United States useful and practical information on subjects relating to agriculture and home economics, and to encourage application of the same," many people still think of extension work being a service concerned only with the problems of farm people. In the words of the basic legislation this certainly is not the case, although in practice there are, of course, limitations in personnel. Certainly, here in the Department of Agriculture, and at many State land-grant agricultural colleges, there is a growing feeling that there are many aspects of service in fields dealing with knowledge of growing things and the science of living that go distinctly beyond people living on farms. Services made available by county extension agents to many cities in many states, in connection with wartime victory gardening, are an outstanding example. In the continued garden program, there is a great opportunity for the Department of Agriculture and the land-grant colleges to provide a service to urban areas. We need extension agents in the cities who do what the county agricultural agents do for farmers. Perhaps an assistant to the county agricultural agent, especially trained in horticulture to serve urban areas, could supply the service needed in many counties with large urban populations. However, as I have said, the initiative in the cities, as has been the case all along in the country, must come from those cooperating groups who see the need for such service and who want it badly

enough to do something about it.

Education Must Keep Pace With Science

Some years ago, before the rumblings of World War II, there were many leaders in this country who emphasized the need for a program of decentralization. Under this plan factories located in rural areas could become the source of livelihood for industrial workers who could live in a nearby garden city out in the open. Unfortunately the war came so fast, and the expansion of war-time industry largely took place in the already overcrowded industrial areas that we actually greatly increased centralized industry. As we convert to peace, we are in an appropriate time to again consider decentralization plans for the future. Many large industries have already adopted this plan as a policy. The National Garden Conference could certainly give further thought to it in the interest of a broader emphasis on gardening and a healthier and more satisfactory life on the part of many workers and their families.

The close of World War II unfolded before our eyes another great development in the field of science -- the harnessing of atomic energy. Should mankind be so foolish as to use this new development for scientific warfare, then, of course, a decentralized, de-urbanized life would be essential for our very existence. I think, however, that most of us here have hopes that ways and means can be found whereby atomic energy will be used for an era of human betterment, a civilization such as all our forebears of all the ages have hoped would some day come. It is in such a civilization that the broader aspects of gardening will find its rightful setting. With atomic energy harnessed to serve man, the standards of living of the human family will rise to undreamed of heights.

Such a civilization, however, will require the fullest expansion of educational effort. It will require enthusiasm for the worthwhile things in life, like that which was generated almost spontaneously by 20 million victory gardens during World War II. If the many groups represented here go home in full support of the recommendations your conference will adopt, we may have hopes that this program for better gardens and better homes and better communities throughout the Nation will be one of the real factors that will contribute physical health and greater moral and spiritual value to everyday American life. And these, after all, are the values on which civilizations are built!

YOUR HOME - AND ITS HORIZON

Malcolm H. Dill
 Chief, Planning and Design
 Cincinnati Planning Commission

A long-term treatment seems appropriate to a garden program because gardens cannot always be dealt with on an emergency basis as they have in the past.

Bombing Did Not Stop Town Planning in Great Britain

The fact that British town planners and city planners had gone ahead with their plans for the future while bombs were dropping all around them seems worthy of note. The wisdom of that procedure is now being exemplified in practical plans in such places as Plymouth, Coventry, and the city and country of London. They are now ready to carry out their plans without waiting until the emergency job is over.

As a single individual can mould the character of his own home, acting collectively those individuals can help to determine the character of the whole community. The way in which the land is used and distributed for residence, for industry, for central business and local shopping, for recreation, kinds and locations of routes for transportation (on the ground, in the air, or on the water) are the concern of city and town planning.

Inspiration for City Planning

City planning had its inspiration in the Chicago World's Fair of 1893. The beauty and impressiveness of its buildings and grounds were in such contrast with prevalent urban surroundings of that period that most of the spectators looked on the imposing architecture as being the really significant aspect. The important thing seemed to be to beautify a town by covering up the ugly spots instead of designing a building or a portion of a city to fit its function. We are now entering an architectural era wherein everything is honestly designed to fit its particular purpose.

Inadequate Space and Haphazard Growth Should Not Be Permitted

In the past, most cities have just kept on expanding without much guidance or control. We became used to having people go out in the country close to a city or town and add a new street, selling lots of 50 feet or whatever they could get away with. The point will soon be reached where a definite, practical limit will be set for the expansion of cities and smaller towns. From an economic standpoint, haphazard growth of that kind cannot be permitted.

The big city has lost touch with its citizens, and vice versa. It has forfeited many of the advantages offered by smaller towns. Current planning is trying to correct that deficiency. Planners are seeking answers to questions of where are and where should be the general locations of places for living and working, for shopping, and for playing? The divisions of larger areas into natural communities into several neighborhoods is being recognized. Each is residential in character but each has its large community shopping center. Each community has its junior or senior high school. each neighborhood, its elementary school--which whenever possible is logically the center of educational, cultural and recreational activities. More and more boards of education are recognizing that education does not stop when school is let out for the day and that recreation, whether for the adult or for the

child of any school age, is just as much a part of education as any other function of the school system. Many people are of the opinion that the school is the appropriate place for community gardening, providing a particular kind of recreation. Playfields and playgrounds are located in relation to the community and neighborhood pattern.

Buffer Areas Between Industry and Residential Neighborhoods

From the standpoint of convenience for public access and because of the opportunity of sharing a mutual setting, such community buildings as branch libraries, health centers, branch post offices, police and fire stations should be arranged in groups wherever possible. While there is no connection between a fire station and a branch library, such a grouping is in keeping with our tradition. We have got too far away from the New England town common idea or town square.

Separator belts should help to demarcate one community from another. In these separator belts should be located the major areas of production and distribution usually located along railroads, and also the main highway trunk lines. Institutions, cemeteries, golf courses, unusable steep hill-sides and valleys should also be in those belts. The purpose of those separator belts is to serve as buffers or transition areas between industry or trunk-line traffic and residential neighborhoods.

Good Planning May Restore Many Advantages Cities Have Lost

Direction of growth or redevelopment of cities in accordance with a community and neighborhood pattern should help to gain many of the advantages of a smaller town that most cities have lost. At the same time, these larger aggregations of communities will present opportunities for cultural, recreational, and medical advantages that can't be furnished by isolated smaller cities.

There are several specific ways in which an individual can promote this kind of local and broader environment for his home.

1. He can join or help to organize a neighborhood council or civic association. An important thing to avoid in such organizations is any tendency to let it become merely a pressure group for local improvements.
2. He can work through such a neighborhood organization or a school Parent-Teacher Association to develop a well-rounded program of neighborhood social and recreational activities.
3. Through such groups he can promote, if not already existent, formation of a city or metropolitan planning commission. The job of such an official agency is to fit together all the numerous elements involved in planning a city and its surroundings--from the broad-scale treatment of a Master Plan, down to details of neighborhood planning, such as seeing to it that individual lots will be big enough to permit having your own garden; or if you live in apartments, that provision is made for joint garden areas.

Larger Lots in Future Subdivisions Are Desirable

More should be said about having larger lots in future subdivisions, both from the standpoint of desirability and from the standpoint of the type of community that should exist in the future. We should all plan to live

underground because of the prospects of the atomic age. I feel a little bit as General Eisenhower had expressed himself in a recent movie short. When asked whether he thought we were approaching a third world war, he said, "No. If I did I would have jumped off the plane on the way across the ocean." It seems rather pointless to talk about building cities underground. Whether there is anything inherent in the atomic age from the standpoint of the advantages it can bring, as regards community planning, it is quite conceivable that the air transportation may have an advantage in larger lots, although I am not at all sure that every family will have a helicopter and a place for it to land. Since there is so much room for expansion around our cities and towns, we might just as well use as much as we would like to have. In saying that, I am not overlooking the economic angles and the money it costs to put in utilities and streets.

4. He can join or help to organize a city-wide citizens' planning group, to encourage and assist the official planning commission and to help to see that its plans are carried into effect in accordance with a well thought-out financial program for public improvements.

Cities and Towns Must Grow Better and Not Merely Bigger

For the greatest good for the greatest number, plans to promote the best and most livable types of new neighborhoods must continue to be made; existing good neighborhoods must be protected so they will stay good; ways of renovating and modernizing neighborhoods that are on the verge of deteriorating must be found; and finally neighborhoods that are beyond hope of redemption in their present blighted form must be replanned and redeveloped by the use of proper legal tools.

The Future Belongs to City that Plans For It

The time is past for expecting most cities and towns to go on growing bigger, as far as population is concerned. The time has come for them to grow better. It requires a vast amount of the same kind of applied civic spirit that was so magnificently exemplified in war time. Whether it can be done without the inspiration of patriotic stimuli will be the acid test for true citizenship.

In conclusion I quote an eminent citizen of Cincinnati, one of America's great exponents of intelligent and far-sighted city planning, the late Alfred Bettman, who said, "The future belongs to the city that plans for it."

THE NATIONAL GARDEN SURVEY - HOW IT AFFECTS OUR GARDEN PROGRAM

B. S. Pickett

Head of Horticulture, Iowa State College

During the summer of 1945 there were many discussions in the Office of Home Food Supply in the Department of Agriculture concerning the place, usefulness, and future of home gardening. The need for a factual basis of future planning prompted the Division of Program Surveys, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Dep't. of Agriculture, to conduct a survey which would stand up under critical statistical analysis to determine the principal facts about victory gardening.

It is interesting that the survey confirmed the major premises of the Victory Garden leaders as to number of gardens and conservation of their product. About one-half of the households reported gardens in 1945 which would make 18.4 millions for the country. This figure is about 3 percent less than 1944.

Survey Shows Gardening Interest Equals Last Year

Garden leaders generally predicted a let-down in number and size of gardens in 1946 because of the ending of the war and of rationing. It is significant that the survey did not bear out this thesis. Actually more people indicated that they would garden in 1946 as in 1945. I confess to some astonishment at this revelation. The figures, however, show that 43 percent of the non-farm families interviewed planned to garden in 1946 (41 percent was the figure for 1945) and 91 percent of the farm families compared with 83 percent for 1945. Allowing for some waning of enthusiasm, however, as spring draws nigh and the spade work becomes imminent, we still have a prospect for as many, or more, gardens as last year on the basis of the survey. If we add the gardens which a million returned married service men will cultivate, we have a right to predict 19.5 or 20 million gardens this year; certainly such a goal under stimulation of a promotional program should not be difficult to attain.

Family food needs naturally influenced gardening. People are more likely to garden if the family is large. The gardening bug is catching. Ninety-one percent of those who have gardened every year for 5 years plan to continue gardening. The people attending this conference should be greatly intrigued by this fact. Many have wondered if war gardening would interest any considerable number of people in continuing after the war. The survey does not show how many of this 91 percent gardened before the war. Another question, however, bears on the point. Only 1 percent of the people who will not continue gardening gave as a reason the fact that the war has ended!

Home Gardeners Do Eat More Vegetables

During the Victory Garden years, nutritionists and garden leaders constantly claimed that victory gardening would result in a larger consumption of vegetables and fruits. There were skeptics, however, who were doubtful if food habits would be greatly changed or the human stomach become larger to accomodate additional food, especially bulky things, like vegetables. The survey showed that more than half the families who had gardens in 1945, but not every year for the past 5 years, thought their families had eaten more vegetables since they had gardens.

Lack of Space Prevents More City Gardens

Doubtless, this conference would like to know for sure what may be the chief obstacles to getting an increase in the number and size of gardens in 1946. The

survey has at least one very positive answer to that one. Farm gardens are already pretty well up toward their maximum number in spite of the fact that the survey indicates an increase for 1946. So the principal obstacles to an increase in number will appertain to city gardens. There the survey shows emphatically that the outstanding reason which city people give for not having gardens in 1946 is lack of space. The Chairman of the garden committee of the city of Des Moines told me a week ago that 3,000 of 5,000 vacant lots which were listed with him in 1944 and 1945 had been withdrawn from garden use for building and other uses. Lack of space for city gardens will be a critical factor in our garden program this year. I can only suggest more searching campaigns to locate available land near enough to gardener's homes for garden lots. Garden chairmen should enlist local newspapers in requesting citizens to volunteer use of idle property. More back yards can be cleared of trash or other useless objects and materials and turned into gardens. In very many places community gardening can be extended. In the last analysis, however, the bulk of the gardening is done in the back yard and in the country in the farm garden. Eighty-nine percent of the town gardens in 1945, were on the owners' property; 8 percent were on the neighbors' lots; 2 percent were in community plots; and 1 percent in industrial plots.

7 Out of 10 Families Did Some Home Food Preserving

A large section of the survey questionnaire was devoted to home food preservation. Since gardening and preservation are directly connected reference should be made to certain facts which were obtained. About 7 out of 10 households preserved some fruits or vegetables in 1945, by canning, freezing, brining, drying, or pickling. People with gardens were more likely to preserve food than those without gardens. Not so much food was canned in 1945 as in 1944 due to scarcity of fruits and vegetables and lack of sugar, carry-over, and other causes. When asked specifically if they would have put up more food this year if they could have had more sugar, half of the non-farm housewives and four-fifths of the farm housewives said they thought they would. Very few housewives said that the elimination of rationing affected the amount they canned this year. Peaches were canned more frequently than any other fruit or vegetable. Tomatoes, pickles, and relishes, and beans ranked next in order.

The survey is of help to us in planning the program for 1946 in the following ways: 1. It is sufficiently encouraging to justify our faith in the educational and publicity devices which were used in 1945 and in the public relations which were cultivated by the garden organizations, press, radio. Refinements and clever new approaches should be used. Garden organization as exemplified in Detroit, Chicago, and Boston could well be encouraged elsewhere. 2. Fertilizers, spray materials, seeds, plants, all garden supplies would seem to be needed on as large a scale as last year. The speaker believes that a million G.I. gardens will be added to what the survey indicated.

Gardening of Great Value to Nation's Future and Must be Strongly Supported

This survey has fulfilled a very useful purpose but its permanent value depends on what we do about the facts it has brought out. Gardening as a whole is of great potential value to the future welfare of this nation and the health and happiness of its citizens. Horticulture, of which gardening is an important part, represents a far greater proportion of Agriculture than most people think. In actual money value, it ranks as one of the largest divisions of Agriculture, as shown by the U. S. Census figures. Gardening is an essential part of Agriculture and should be adequately recognized, serviced and encouraged, in peace as well as war times by both Federal and State government agencies.

GARDENING AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT IN NATIONAL PLANNING PROGRAMS

E. J. Coil

Executive Director, National Planning Association

We have not yet solved one of the basic problems of urban society: How better to integrate the individual and the family into the community. Individuals want to belong, to participate, to contribute, and to share.

City Life Is Too Atomized

We have found no equivalent for the human values on the farm in urban life. On the farm there is a responsible role for each member of the family and some creative productive task that belongs to him. City life is too atomized.

Capitalize On War Experience

We should capitalize and build on the new social experiences and new community institutions developed during the war.

- (1) Home and community victory gardens;
- (2) Pre-school and child care centers;
- (3) The USO;
- (4) The "teen-age night clubs" in which such facilities as music and soft drinks are provided.

These are all human, satisfying activities which should be encouraged and made a prominent part of our urban life. They are particularly fitting to factory and office workers because in large-scale mass production the individual worker has lost the sense of participation in the wholeness of the production process.

Long Range Aspects of Planning

While we have an immediate housing crisis, the problems of housing and urban re-development will be with us for a long time. Although we see architects and artists' pictures of what the city of tomorrow could look like, it will not come into being overnight. In this country urban re-building must be done by segments, a new suburb here, a slum clearance project there.

The long range aspects of planning of housing and urban development and reconstruction must be considered. There is need for an over-all plan, if we are to fit these segments into a desirable pattern.

Our Cities Not War Destroyed

We in this country are not forced to re-build cities destroyed by war. But one of these days we will see in the movies re-built cities in England, Europe and Russia. Unless we carry forth a planning and building program our cities are going to appear increasingly shabby by comparison.

Blighted Areas

City people need to be shocked into doing something about blighted areas and seeing to it that the current housing boom now underway does not run wild and repeat the dreary mistakes of the past. It seems important and obvious that in each step that is taken ample facilities should be arranged to provide people with opportunities for activities that relate to productive processes, whether it be gardening, care of trees, shrubs, and ornamental plantings, or playgrounds. Let us see that play and park space is set aside and is adequate to meet future needs. Thinking in terms of human values - playgrounds, gardens, play space, and parks can vitaly help in reducing child delinquency, crime, and family disruptions and divorce.

Economic Aspect

There is also an economic aspect. Proper planning of grounds around homes, public places and highways can stabilize and enhance the value of the real estate.

Real Employment Opportunities

Many victory gardens are a source of self-employment, of productive relaxation, and creative exercise. But there are real employment opportunities in addition in gardening and community improvement:

(1) In the last 25 years we have seen the rapid development of what I term the service of technology, radio, repairman, the oil furnace man, the refrigerator man, etc.

(2) In the future, I think, we will see a new growth of opportunity which may be called making a technology of service. We have relied too much in the past on unskilled, poorly trained, low paid, inefficient labor to do many of the household and community tasks; the washerwoman, the tramp yard man.

The new direction is toward placing these services on an efficient better paid basis with competent and well trained workers. There are opportunities in child and playground and recreational supervision. There are opportunities in the community for the gardener and the horticulturist.

Human Values

If we give more attention to the human values in life, our cities may begin to reproduce themselves in population. Their failure to do it now is a sign of lack of health and vitality. If through the efforts of communities, neighborhoods, and the nation, more emphasis is placed on human values, our cities will provide for the family a satisfying way of life. This will be a sign that health has returned to urban living.

GARDENING IN THE SCHOOL PROGRAM

Dr. R. W. Gregory, Representing Dr. John W. Studebaker
Commissioner, U. S. Office of Education

As for the school itself, it presents many opportunities for organized instruction in the principles and art of gardening. At the moment there is great interest in health education, emphasized largely by the war and its revelations with respect to health deficiencies on the part of many young men. Beyond doubt there is a high correlation between health and learning. And certainly health and nutrition have a very close relationship.

Health Nutrition and Gardening Go Hand in Hand

Can we capitalize on our attention and interest in health for teaching something of nutrition and gardening. If so, we can't lose. We will gain at both ends. Increased health and learning on the part of the student; increased production and consumption of home-grown garden crops for the general welfare.

Co-operation and Science Learned from Gardening

Next to a health interest that came out of the war has been an interest in science. Those who know would probably say that one of our great advantages lay in our ability to harness science, qualitatively and quantitatively, to the making of war. Can we start there, in the schools and find in the growing of vegetable crops enough of science to hold and even expand what we now have in attention and interest for scientific cause and effect? A school garden planned and cared for by a class or a club presents innumerable opportunities for teaching the principles and practices of co-operative action.

School Community Canning and Gardening

Interestingly enough, many farm families have not had all of the advantages that should have accrued to them by virtue of their place opportunity, from a well planned and efficiently produced farm garden. Rural schools as a permanent long time objective might well give consideration to plans for education that would bring about desirable changes in this respect. As a matter of fact, in those schools wherever we find vocational agriculture and vocational home economics taught there is developing just such a long-range program. Wherever conditions have been most favorable for such the development has culminated in the establishment of a school community canning plant that is used as a facility for teaching what has as its primary by-product thousands of cans of good, wholesome fruit and vegetable crops. This teaching covers planning, plantings, producing, and preserving. Planning for family needs, quantitatively and qualitatively, is done by man and wife working together in classes organized for that purpose.

I could go on for a long time listing time and place opportunities where Victory Gardening on the first hand could be made the subject of persuasive teaching and fascinating learning in the schools of this land, while on the second hand it would make no mean contribution to the solving of one of our most critical national problems. The schools of this nation can and will respond to the great and humane challenge of a righteous cause.

YOUTH'S ROLE IN TODAY'S AND TOMORROW'S GARDENS

E. H. Bakken

Chairman, Garden Committee for National Youth Organizations

Great War Food Record of All Youth Agencies

The major volunteer youth serving agencies gave vigorous leadership to war time gardening. 4H Club members in the three full years of war tilled 400,000 rural acres of garden land; the young and vigorous Future Farmers shared. Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls and Boy Scouts plussed up this effort with more than a million war gardens during this same period. Agencies, such as Junior Red Cross, the Settlements, the Relief agencies, the Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., Boys Clubs of America and Junior Vegetable Growers shared in the big urban push for an ample home food supply. Young farm people of Grange and Farm Bureau all worked in cooperation with schools, garden clubs and the other active promoters of Victory gardens in order that every possible acre would be tilled.

National Garden Institute Awards 25,000 MacArthur Medals

These organizations received unparalleled support from the major garden agencies, and particularly from the National Victory Garden Institute which arranged last year for the MacArthur Victory Garden Medal which was presented to growers of the largest and best youth gardens of 1945. Some 25,000 of these medals were presented. Through the continuing courtesy of the National Garden Institute most of the youth organizations will use the MacArthur Medal again in 1946.

Youth Answers Call to Battle Hunger Abroad

Now the Famine Emergency Program is upon us. It has given the Garden Program a proper peace-time impetus. According to reports at an inter-youth agency meeting last Friday, all the voluntary youth serving agencies either have sent or are sending bulletins to their local Councils and organizations. Though their 1946 programs include "belt-tightening" and sharing programs, food production is not forgotten. Gardens for peace will be grown.

Gardening by Youth - Fun and Learning

In the last few decades, science has changed the world. But strangely enough, the hoe and the rake have not changed. In the atomic age now dawning there is freedom from anxiety in the things that never change. Youth can find seclusion and strength in the seed and bulb, and in our highly mechanized and evolutionary world increasingly useful areas of escape. They might far better escape into the constancy of the garden than the unreality and fiction of many a movie or modern novel. Working with the hands, we are told, tends to slow the mind to the speed of the hands, and thus aid the healthful development of the growing mind. Many of the Volunteer Youth Agencies are seeking educational methods to make gardening fun rather than drudgery and thus a normal part of their activity Programs. The economy or profit in the thing is secondary to these planned activities.

REPORTS BY GARDEN CLUBS ON THE PLANS FOR A CONTINUING PROGRAM
IN HOME GARDENING AND CIVIC IMPROVEMENT

Mrs. William Champlin, President, National Council of State Garden Clubs, explained the purposes of that organization. It is composed of those who live in the city and those who live in the country; those who are interested in horticulture, and those who are interested in flowers and their arrangement. The common interest which binds them together is that they are all workers. The organization is seventeen years old, and it not only retains the enthusiasm and resiliency of youth, but has acquired that adjustability that has helped make it a force in the production of food so necessary today.

Has a Broad Continuing Program

The objectives of the Council coincide identically with the purpose of the conference, Mrs. Champlin pointed out. Those objectives are: (1) to coordinate the aims of the offices of the garden groups of the states and to bring them into closer relation of mutual helpfulness by association, conferences, and correspondence; (2) to aid in the protection and conservation of our natural resources; (3) to encourage civic beauty and roadside beautification; (4) to study in all its aspects the fine art of gardening; (5) to cooperate with other agencies in furthering the interests of horticulture and conservation. The Council is already urging the continuance of vegetable gardens which have now been termed "peace" gardens.

The Council's aims for the future include vegetables, as well as blossoms, around camps, hospitals, and school houses. In encouraging a long-time garden program, Mrs. Champlin suggested that the Department of Agriculture propose the planting of asparagus, rhubarb, fruit trees. Those delicious fruits, such as cherries, apples, and plums which need not be planted every year are especially valuable for the amateur gardeners.

A National Garden Week

The week of April 21 has been designated by the Council as the second Garden Week, the first having been instituted last year. A full week is given to publicity through the radio, newspapers, exhibits in the city and rural centers, through the school, in the libraries, and wherever the cause of gardening may be furthered. The date is set so as to include the birthday of J. Sterling Morton, the founder of Arbor Day, and the planting of trees is thus encouraged.

More than the planting of trees is done on Arbor Day. The National Council has a dream that what it has begun may eventually be a coast to coast red star memorial highway, with spurs running from the main highway into every State on that highway. Each State through which it passes is working with the State Highway Departments to plan, plant and maintain some suitable plantings as a memorial to our military services. During National Garden Week many of those plantings will be dedicated. Mrs. Champlin asked that the Department of Agriculture give recognition to the second National Garden Week.

(Editorial Note:- The National Garden Conference voted unanimously to approve the plan of a permanent national garden week)

Council Reaches Far

Mrs. Champlin said she would take the findings of this conference to the annual meeting of the Council in New Orleans on April 8, 9, and 10, and would urge the immediate responsibility of the Council for its share in relieving the

present acute food shortages. How far reaching that influence is can be found in the fact that there are 4,000 clubs in 41 states, 160,000 members. The National Council of State Garden Clubs is ready to serve, in fact it is on its way.

Message from Men's Garden Club of America

Eugene Pfister, President of the Men's Garden Club of America, reviewed briefly the record of the Men's Garden Clubs of America and the Victory garden movement. He said that his organization could rightfully take credit for being the first organized group to take action toward increasing home food production, because at a meeting in Chicago In November 1939, they planned a home food program that would go into effect immediately if war came. The group was functioning in 1941, he continued; men were testing plans for vegetable plots and working out problems that would bother the new gardener. From then on until V-J day, they have been in the vanguard of the Victory garden program. They have been and are serving on State and local advisory committees. On the radio, through magazine and newspaper articles, they have carried on a campaign of education and have furnished instructive and authoritative information to many home gardeners.

Organizations like ours can make an important contribution to horticulture by testing and reporting on new horticultural materials. We have established test plots on many plants which are proceeding satisfactorily. Further projects will be instituted as time goes on. Our club members are helping in every possible way to organize and support the school garden program as part of the school curriculum. They not only are helping but they are bringing in new members and forming new groups in many areas.

Unquestionably, Men's Garden Clubs will support wholeheartedly the home garden program as long as necessary. They have been at it too long to ever give up vegetable growing. They also have a considerable number of projects relating to various ornamental garden plants. They will continue to educate their neighbors and community through participating in flower shows and exhibitions.

Urban Extension Agents Urged

Mr. Pfister went on to congratulate the U. S. Department of Agriculture for its fine spirit of cooperation and support. The Extension Service and the County Agent have helped wherever and whenever problems were brought to them, he said. This service should be extended to urban and suburban gardeners.

Message From Garden Clubs of America

Mrs. Gilbert M. Hitchcock, representing Mrs. Harry T. Peters, of the Garden Clubs of America, reported that this organization has been most active in the field of food production and preservation. At the end of the war they thought they could abandon their efforts but now they find they cannot. During the war, 1935 member clubs in 35 States worked unceasingly in victory gardens and in community canning clubs. They worked with other organizations, trying to cooperate and avoid duplication. As need for relief grows less, they will channel their efforts into service and betterment projects.

THE BENEFITS OF GARDENING TO THE WORKING MAN'S FAMILY

John M. Baer, Representing I. M. Ornburn
Labor's Committee on Food and Nutrition
 American Federation of Labor

Labor's Committee on Food and Nutrition of the American Federation of Labor had a good record of accomplishment in food activities during the last five years, according to John M. Baer, speaking for I. M. Ornburn, chairman of that Committee and secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department of the A. F. of L. A series of articles on food were released each week to the labor press. They were picked up by some of the large industries in the country as well as the national and international labor unions. Weekly lectures and demonstrations in cooking to help the members of labor unions and their wives in the problem of better nutrition were inaugurated in many cities and war-industry localities.

Necessity for Revitalizing the Soil

Mr. Baer called the attention of the Conference to the fact that in 1896 Senator Fletcher was telling about the value of minerals and other ingredients in food--they weren't called vitamins then--and was pointing out that the necessity for revitalizing the soil to get better results in food values. Emphasis should be placed on the desirability and fertility of soils in order to prevent a waste of time and seeds before planting is started, he said. Mr. Baer thought if the hours spent in overtime work during the war are now spent in peacetime gardens a vast amount of garden food would be produced.

Cost of Living Reduced by Raising Vegetables

Mr. Baer assured the Conference that the Union Label Trades Department will continue to publish the fact that home gardens are needed. It will emphasize the humanitarian aspects first, but will also impress upon its members the fact that the cost of living for the average family can be reduced by raising its own garden vegetables. If they can raise vegetables for their daily use and preserve the surplus, their cost of living will be greatly reduced.

Greatest Co-operation to the Home Garden Program

At least 70 percent of the members of the A. F. of L. have learned the value of proper nutrition and know how to cook food properly to preserve its value.

The officials of the American Federation of Labor unions and the American Federation of Women's Auxiliaries of Labor will give the greatest co-operation to this home-garden program, Mr. Baer assured the Conference.

INDUSTRY'S PART IN THE GARDEN PROGRAM

Lester J. Norris
Chairman, Industrial Advisory Committee
National Garden Institute

Here you have the specific projects of the Institute as decided upon at its annual meeting in January. An interesting peacetime program, but at last the pressure of a war emergency program was off --- we thought. Then came President Truman's plea to the American people, in February, to share their food, tighten their belts if necessary, to help the starving people of the World. Certainly my complacency vanished with that appeal just as did every other Victory Garden leader's throughout the country. The President's appeal meant a quick reconversion from a peacetime policy to an emergency policy of the Institute.

We reasoned that there is only one answer to a shortage - and that is production.

And, in response to President Truman's appeal, a telegram was sent to him February 13, in which we asked - "May we have your answer as to the necessity of home food production and conservation"....

On February 18 the following telegram was received by the Institute from the President:

"It is a source of great satisfaction to know that the members of your organization are active in mobilizing home gardeners behind the National Garden Program in 1946. The food produced in these home gardens will add greatly to our total food supply. During the war, Victory Gardeners made a magnificent contribution to the food production which was an important factor in winning the war. Food is still one of the most vital weapons in securing a lasting and stable peace. Farmers and Victory Gardeners of America must make every effort to help provide the additional food that is so sorely needed. The deep satisfaction that these food producers will receive from helping to relieve the critical starvation conditions abroad will be an additional reward for their extra efforts." /signed/ Harry Truman.

This message we accepted as a command.

What the Institute Has Done and Expects to Do

Now I would like to summarize some of the services of the Institute:

Gardengram, our monthly bulletin to Industry, has been mailed to 5000 companies and members regularly since January 1945.

Some 60,000 copies of the Institute's canning booklet have been distributed.

We have held industrial garden conferences, three of which were national, in New York, Detroit, Chicago, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, San Francisco and St. Louis; and cooperated in conferences held in Minneapolis, Los Angeles, Boston, Pittsburgh, Oklahoma City, Kansas City, Sacramento, Cleveland, Portland, Seattle, and many smaller cities.

Thousands of letters of advice and general correspondence to companies and Victory Garden leaders throughout the country have been written to our field men and officers.

Our National Green Thumb Contest which was inaugurated in 1944, caused eager competition by gardeners in 36 states, and is being continued.

Approximately 225,000 Green Thumb record books have been distributed by the Institute and companies whose employees participated.

Two thousand dollars in War Bonds were distributed in 1944, and \$2,500 in 1945, to youth and adult contest winners.

The General MacArthur Award for youths doing an outstanding job in gardening is another creation of the Institute. Twenty thousand of these medals were supplied to the Boy Scouts of America by the Institute.

Some 8,000 medals have been distributed by the Institute through the school systems, Girl Scouts, 4-H Clubs and other youth agencies.

Hundreds of press releases and radio scripts have been written by the staff of the Institute or in cooperation with companies who helped to promote gardening.

The Institute Plaque is the highest award in gardening. A total of 167 companies have received this award. Forty-six companies have merited the award three years; 14 have received it two years; and 28 one year. The greatest number was in 1945 when 88 companies received this recognition.

The Institute has maintained four offices located in New York, Detroit, Chicago, and San Francisco, with field men in charge of each office. All of these men are specialists in their line and have done a remarkable job in covering the country. The compensation which they and their assistants received I do not think in any way matched the contribution which they made to the program. Time, effort, and hours made no difference to them in accomplishing the objectives of the Institute. Words cannot express my appreciation for their loyalty and efforts.

Institute's Industrial Advisory Committee Helps to Mobilize Industry

Special mention should be made of the important contribution Mr. William Jeffers made to the success of the Institute when, in the first year, he accepted the chairmanship of the Industrial Advisory Committee of the Institute, and enlisted 37 leading industrialists of the country to serve with him in mobilizing Industry behind the program.

We know that industry was directly responsible last year for some 2 million employees gardens in 1945. If industrial leaders with all their post-war problems could be impressed with the necessity of a garden program for food again, their facilities for promotion not only with their own employees but with the public at large could assure us of success.

Appeal to Industry to Promote Victory Gardens in 1946

A letter was sent to key industrial leaders throughout the country during the past two weeks, which I shall read in part:

"The National Garden Institute has offered President Truman its services in helping to mobilize industry once again in the Victory Garden Program. This will not be an easy task. The season is late and we will need your immediate cooperation in this voluntary movement if we are to be successful.

You can be of tremendous help to us in the following ways:

1. "Initiate a company-employee Victory Garden Program.
2. "If you do radio or newspaper advertising urge your listeners, or readers, to plant a garden. You may use the slogan "Help insure the Victory with a Victory Garden."
3. "Report your company's activities in the program to your local newspapers. It is news.

"The Institute will again sponsor three National Green Thumb contests - for Industrial, Youth and Adult gardeners respectively. Information regarding the contests, or material, which will be helpful to you will be supplied by anyone of our four regional offices."

Helps Arouse Nation to Wage War Against Starvation

In response to our appeal, the Victory Garden program received places on national radio programs. The Press has cooperated from Miami to San Francisco. Many other spot announcements and scripts, are in the making with the cooperation of the Institute.

Reports being received in our various offices indicate that many companies are again taking up the program. Over 70% of the Institute's plaque winners reported that they would continue.

Quite significant is the program of one company which even though its strike had not been settled at the time, reported to us that they had ordered 250,000 garden booklets for their employees.

Garden Institute Sponsors First Victory Garden Train in History

Railroads are again making rights-of-way available for gardeners and are boosting the garden program in many other ways as they did during war times. One railroad has arranged to send a special Victory Garden train to key population centers along its lines. The National Garden Institute and the Chicago Northwestern Railroad are sponsoring this train and Extension Services of various states are cooperating.

A unique plan which I think is worthy of mention is the St. Charles-Geneva, Ill. industrial housing project. The National Garden Institute is cooperating in this project and will supervise a model gardening layout which will embody the proper spacing of open lawn, vegetable garden and recommend what fruit trees and shrubbery should be planted on this size plot to utilize the ground to the best advantage. The Institute has a special booklet now on the press which will be distributed to companies interested in such a project.

The Institute pledges itself to do all within its power to mobilize industry and to help in any other way possible to meet President Truman's appeal to produce food as one of the most vital weapons in securing a lasting peace.

NATIONAL GARDEN CONFERENCE
 (Called by Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson)
 March 26-28, 1946
 Washington, D. C.

Recommendations of Committee No. 1 - Immediate Victory Garden Program and
 Its Relation to Famine Emergency Program - Adopted by the Conference

President Truman on March 1 proclaimed food as a most vital weapon in securing a lasting, stable peace, and stated, "Farmers and Victory Gardeners of America must make every effort to help provide the additional food that is so sorely needed."

So much food stuff has been pledged to war-torn nations where famine exists or impends that every American who can do so, must have a Victory Garden in 1946.

In the light of the Domestic and Foreign food situation, the committee recommends:

(a) The public be told without delay the facts of the world food situation, with due emphasis on the necessity for home grown vegetables if a well balanced diet is to be maintained; that this be done through the medium of government press releases, and the use of all available publication and radio outlets, and that the services of the government and civilian organizations which were so valuable during the previous Victory Garden Campaigns be re-enlisted to encourage community, industrial, school and home gardening.

(b) (1) The establishment of a national garden goal of more than 20,000,000 home gardens for 1946. This will exceed the best record established during the war years.

(2) The USDA Office of Information during the next three critical months should issue a weekly fact sheet on the food situation. This sheet to be distributed to all divisions of the Department of Agriculture and through all other public channels.

(3) The preparation and the distribution, by the USDA radio service of 5 minute recordings by nationally known authorities on the urgency of the domestic food situation and the need for victory gardens, and that these recordings be distributed to all state agencies and radio stations.

(4) To immediately release to all state agencies concerned prints of famine and garden motion pictures now in the hands of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

(5) The public's intentions to plant victory gardens in 1946 be determined by requesting a Gallup poll.

(c) To request that the National Famine Emergency Relief Committee immediately contact garden committees and service clubs and organizations and enlist their aid in the Victory Garden Program.

(d) That wherever possible, new home owners and sponsors of housing projects be encouraged to provide space for home gardens.

(e) & (f) In order to get maximum results in Farm, City, Suburban, Industry and Community Gardens all garden groups should work through and in conjunction with

State Agricultural Extension Services and all other established State and local agencies.

(g) Committee discussions revealed no critical shortages in garden supplies.

Recommendations of Committee No. 2 - Conservation and Use of Food For Home, Community and Famine Relief - Adopted by the Conference

Along with Victory gardeners, home and community canners are called on to re-mobilize at once for an active campaign to increase food supplies at home and fight famine overseas. Not only canning, but freezing, storing, and other preservation methods will be an important part of this nationwide drive to preserve and conserve the perishable products of garden and orchard.

The Committee on Conservation and Use of Food for Home, Community, and Famine Relief therefore recommends to families -

1. Plan to preserve and store a large share of your family's needs for fruits and vegetables, thereby lightening the load on transportation and releasing commercial stocks of food for shipment abroad.
2. Estimate needs for canning jars and closures or tin cans immediately and buy or order supplies well in advance of time they will be used.
3. Secure and use a steam pressure canner for processing all vegetables except tomatoes, and have pressure gage checked to insure proper temperatures within canner.
4. Use latest scientific methods when preparing fruits and vegetables for freezing in a home or community plant.
5. Stretch limited sugar supplies to put up a maximum amount of fruit.
6. Provide adequate storage facilities for root crops, fruits, and home canned foods.
7. Get full nutritional returns and help prevent spoilage by preserving fruits and vegetables strictly fresh.

To Community leaders, the Committee further recommends -

1. Call back to the colors leaders in community food preservation to put community canneries on a maximum working basis.
2. Stress sound scientific methods in community cannery and frozen food locker plants to prevent loss of nutritive value and waste of food through spoilage.
3. Pool and exchange ideas for promoting the food preservation program through a central community, State, and Federal clearing agency.
4. Mobilize the community for preservation of food for school lunches and charitable institutions by making greatest possible use of school and institution

gardens, seasonal abundances, and surplus from home gardens and orchards.

5. Enlist volunteers to donate time and materials for canning food for relief shipment abroad by UNRRA and other agencies wherever facilities are available for canning in tin and adequate supervision is assured.

6. Use press, radio, and other media, such as demonstrations, tours, caravans, and group meetings, to call attention to need for home and community preservation as part of famine relief, and to build understanding of world food needs.

Special requests to the standing committee of the National Garden Program -

1. Reassign available U.S.D.A. personnel to give all possible help to the emergency food conservation program during the next 3 or 4 months, or secure funds to provide additional personnel, State and county, to expand the food conservation program and to provide necessary demonstration equipment and materials to make such educational programs more effective.

2. Arrange for an immediate survey such as the Gallup Poll to determine intentions to can, as a guide to manufacturers of equipment for both home and community canning so that supplies will be adequate and for its promotional effect.

3. Designate a Federal agency to receive and transmit ideas on promoting the Food Preservation Program.

Recommendations of Committee No. 3 - A Long-Time Garden Program for America
Adopted by the Conference

The committee recognizes that the main purpose of the National Garden Conference is to promote the production of food to meet the existing international emergency. Nevertheless, it seems wholly appropriate at this time to plan a complete long-range garden program. No recommendation in this report is to be construed as interfering with the main objective of food production during the emergency.

* * * * *

These recommendations are made as suggestions to the Department Committee on Home Gardening in working out a national garden program.

1. That the present National Advisory Garden Committee be continued and enlarged, with suitable sub-committees, so that close relations may be maintained between the Department of Agriculture and the gardening public, and the greatest possible assistance may be given to the Departmental Garden Committee in promoting the national garden program.

2. That a National Garden Conference be called by the U.S.D.A. in the fall of each year, not later than November 1.

3. That more intensive use be made of all public relations facilities including radio, newspapers, etc., to disseminate garden information and to promote the national program, and that this promotion be channeled from the U.S.D.A. to local levels through the Extension Service.

4. That the U.S.D.A. issue a separate series of home garden bulletins aimed at urban needs and conditions; and that State Extension Services be similarly encouraged to develop home garden bulletins based on their local conditions.
5. That a division of ornamental horticulture be established in the Bureau of Plant Industry to conduct research, and that extension facilities and personnel, both Federal and State, be expanded to handle this phase of the work in urban as well as rural communities.
6. That the production of vegetables and fruits be stressed as a permanent phase of home gardening, both as a contribution to an adequate diet and because of its value in educational work.
7. That every encouragement be given to the improvement of home grounds through better planning so that the home property may be made attractive and the enjoyment of gardening extended to the greatest number of families.
8. That programs of civic, community, and countryside improvement be stimulated and, specifically, developed to include more parks, parkways, and playgrounds, the enhancement of approaches to cities and towns, the inclusion in new housing developments of more provision for outdoor living, the improvement of water-fronts and adjacent areas, the landscaping of school grounds, public building sites and cemeteries, and the removal and control of unsightly billboards and other objectionable roadside objects.
9. That all Youth garden-activities be encouraged in both urban and rural areas; also the expansion of garden education in the schools.
10. That the importance of garden therapy be emphasized and its increased use encouraged.
11. That more flower and garden shows, garden competitions and other visual horticultural demonstrations be employed to promote greater public interest in gardening.
12. That coordinated land use studies be recommended with a view to improving home and community planning and utilizing, for community purposes, sub-marginal lands unfit for agricultural purposes and that tend to become rural slums.
13. That the word "improvement" be used in preference to "beautification" in all garden programs.
14. That industry be urged to continue to promote gardening among its employees as a means toward a larger and more nutritious home food supply and better living conditions.
15. That industrial plants and the appearance of industrial areas be improved by appropriate landscaping.
16. That industry and business be encouraged to use their public relations and advertising facilities to promote gardening in the interests of the public welfare.
17. That real estate and building interests, the FHA, and other housing agencies be urged to make gardening a definite part of all home building activities.

Recommendations of Committee No. 4 - Garden Activity by Youth - Adopted
by the Conference

We of the committee recognize and wish to pay tribute to the outstanding contribution which youth, organized and unorganized, made to our total food supply during the war years. Because of that experience we are confident that youth can and will, if properly apprised of the need, make an equally noteworthy contribution to our food production program during this present famine emergency. We are confident, too, that the boys and girls who are taking part in this food production effort will themselves be immeasurably healthier and happier for having done so. The sense of helpfulness and humanitarianism gained from such activities will go far toward insuring that enduring peace toward which we are all striving.

In order to encourage and implement increased gardening by young people the committee recommends that:

1. Increased cooperation on the part of all organized youth groups and their leadership be requested in furthering gardening activities. It is important that special emphasis be placed on food production during this present famine emergency.
2. Our elementary school program be broadened to include gardening as an annual continuing part of the curriculum. Actual gardening experience is suggested wherever space, leadership, and adequate supervision permit.
3. The Extension Service in cooperation with the Office of Education prepare suitable garden literature and visual teaching aids for the use of teachers and other local leaders of youth gardening activities.
4. In order to implement gardening as a part of the elementary school program a course in agriculture with major emphasis on gardening be included in all teacher-training curricula.
5. The Extension personnel, both in the counties and at the State level, assist elementary school teachers in the selection and preparation of material for their gardening classes.
6. These recommendations be placed in the hands of the Commissioner U. S. Office of Education, State School Superintendents, the Director of Extension, State Extension Directors, leaders of the various Youth Organizations and others in a position to further a continuing garden program with youth.

Recommendations of Committee No. 5 - Home Fruit Planting for Town and Country -
Adopted by the Conference

We note the increasing, wide-spread and growing interest among our people in greater consumption of Fruits in recent years. This has come about through the knowledge and information obtained from human nutritional research. It is now known that fruits supply not only essential health protective elements, but they also furnish variety, color, and zest to the diet. Fruits, therefore, continue to merit the statement that they are "protective foods". We re-emphasize our recommendation of 1944 that a home fruit planting be included in a well-balanced national program of home food production on farm, in town, and on suburban property in order to meet present and long-time needs of nutrition and economy.

It is obvious and the committee agrees that both urban and rural families should plant the kinds of fruits best adapted to local conditions to provide wholesome and nutritious fruit for the seasonal family uses. It is well to follow the recommendations made by the local Experiment Stations concerning varieties. The aesthetic value of fruit plants in bloom, their beautiful fruits, shade and general attractiveness adds much to the enjoyment and value of the home.

Perhaps no form of recreation has served to maintain better moral and good citizenship of people generally than gardening. It is also clear that a large percentage may not have adequate fruit for home consumption unless they produce it on the home grounds. Furthermore, since fruits are so vital for good nutrition, it is important that fruit eating habits be established in the early years at home. Once such habits are learned they are never forgotten. Consequently, increased consumption through the years is sure to follow and thus the commercial producers are also greatly benefitted.

With an adequate fruit and vegetable planting, the returns, according to the investigations of Agriculture Colleges and Experiment Stations, may be as much as ten times that of any other similar producing area. Moreover, there is no other type of production that lends itself so well to the interest and employment of every member of the family. This is especially important in the rearing and training of children. The program is well adapted to 4-H Clubs and other youth organization projects.

When home fruit producers generally employ better methods of culture including such practices as proper cultivation, fertilization, good pruning, and the use of varieties best suited for home plantings greater returns and more successes are certain. If such work is performed properly it may go a long way toward preventing serious injury by plant pests. In fact, in many cases with certain fruits particularly pears, early apples, early peaches, and sour cherries spraying and dusting practices may not be required to produce crops satisfactory for home use. Furthermore, bush fruits and the small fruits may not require an extensive spraying program. Spraying, however, may be expected to increase the quality and value of the fruit.

Recent introductions through research of many new insecticides and fungicides have simplified pest control. A good example of this is the startling and almost unbelievable results secured from the proper use of DDT. Other similar new insecticides and several new fungicides when further tested and perfected by experiments doubtless will lead to a new era in simpler and more effective insect and disease control for the home fruit planting.

The use of pre-harvest hormone sprays offer a new value in home orchard production because they hold the fruit on the trees until maturity is attained. Injury and loss to fruit from dropping is therefore lessened. Both quality and quantity is increased as a result.

New quick freezing methods of preserving fruits and vegetables along with better practices of storage, drying, canning, and preserving have made substantial gains in recent years. This development is sure to continue. Fruits, therefore, produced on the home grounds are likely to be handled more economically and efficiently than in the past. Fully tree-ripened fruit gives highest quality, best nutrition, and the most satisfactory product. Such accomplishments are possible in the home fruit planting.

Your committee recommends the following:

1. Education regarding the value of fruit in the diet and the practical culture of fruits should be emphasized and stressed in such organizations as garden clubs, horticultural clubs, 4-H clubs, Future Farmers of America, Scouts, Campfire Girls, and others.
2. News releases, magazine articles, the distribution of timely printed materials from State Agricultural Colleges or other educational agencies.
3. Increased uses of radio and visual aid materials.
4. Agricultural Experiment Stations are urged to start experimental work if such is not already in progress to determine the value, the best production practices for home fruit plantings in the different sections of the country. The research should deal particularly with cultural practices and development of varieties, equipment and materials suited and adapted to the home orchard and fruit planting.

Recommendations of Committee No. 6 - Research Needs of Home Gardeners - Adopted by the Conference

It was suggested that this committee study three phases of research needs, -(a) research on home food garden problems; (b) research on ornamentals for home and community improvement; (c) research for better home and community planning.

With respect to the latter item, this committee was of the opinion that it was a problem of education and dissemination of information rather than of research and, therefore, it forwarded certain suggestions for the consideration of Committee No. Three.

For home food garden problems we urge the Department of Agriculture to cooperate more intensively with the state and regional experiment stations on the breeding and testing of fruit and vegetable varieties more adaptable to the different climatic and growing conditions of the country and likewise on the development and use of fertilizers and insecticides. We also suggest that agricultural engineers might develop new types of tools, especially simple and inexpensive dusting and spraying equipment, more suitable to the needs of the home gardener.

For home and community improvement we very strongly urge that the Department increase its work in the development of all types of ornamental plant material suitable to home ground planting, and that greater encouragement be given to state and regional experiment stations for the development and testing of varieties more adaptable to the conditions of their respective areas. We believe that the problems of pathology, physiology, entomology and plant nutrition should receive equal emphasis with and be studied simultaneously with the breeding program.

In conclusion, we wish to repeat with emphasis the recommendation of the 1944 Garden Conference that a Division of Ornamental Horticulture be established in the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils and Agricultural Engineering.

In connection with these recommendations, as with all other recommendations adopted by this conference which involve increased service by the USDA, this committee calls your serious attention to the statement by M. L. Wilson yesterday, that the initiative must come from those groups who see the need for such service and who want it badly enough to do something about it.

PROGRAM AND INSPECTION TOUR
AT AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND

The last day of the Conference was devoted to a trip to Beltsville and Glenndale, Maryland to visit horticultural reserach stations of the Department of Agriculture. About 80 persons made the trip, leaving Washington at 9 o'clock and returning at 4:30 that afternoon.

The first hour and half was spent in the Plant Industry Station auditorium, where short talks were given on the following subjects:

- Current research on ornamentals, by S. L. Emsweller
- Current research on fruits and vegetables, by J. R. Magness
- Current research on potatoes, by F. J. Stevenson
- Current research on hormones, by W. J. Mitchell
- Current research on insects, by W. H. White (Bureau of Entomology
and Plant Quarantine)
- Current research on weed control, by L. W. Kephart

Each talk was followed by a question period and much interest was expressed.

Following the session in the auditorium the delegates were divided into two groups. One was led by Dr. Emsweller through several of the greenhouses where his staff was carrying on experimental work with ornamental plants. The other group was led by Dr. Magness and visited greenhouses devoted to experimental work with fruits and vegetables.

At 12:45 both groups met in the cafeteria and had lunch. After lunch the group that visited the ornamental work in the forenoon was shown the work on fruits and vegetables and the other group was taken by Dr. Emsweller to see the ornamental work. These tours lasted about one hour.

At 3 o'clock both groups boarded the two large buses chartered for the occasion and drove 9 miles over country roads to Glenndale where the Department for many years has maintained a plant introduction garden and several greenhouses used for special plant propagation work. There the group was shown the new fluroescent light propagating and seedling cabinet developed by Vernon T. Stoutemyer. B. Y. Morrison, who has charge of the Division of Plant Exploration and Introduction, accompanied the group to Glenndale and told about the work of his division in propagating large numbers of cinchona plants, which were shipped to several countries in Latin America.

LIST OF GARDEN LEADERS WHO ATTENDED THE NATIONAL GARDEN CONFERENCE

Allinson, Mrs. E. Page, Nat'l Council of St. Garden Clubs, West Chester, Pa.
 Alp, H. H., Regional Director, National Garden Institute, St. Charles, Illinois
 Anderson, Calvert, Extension Editor, State College of Agri., Pullman, Washington
 Andersen, Dr. E. Milton, Ext. Horticulturist, Utah State Agri. College, Logan, Utah
 Andrews, Flood S., Veg. Spec., VPI, Extension Service, Blacksburg, Virginia
 Arocair, H. Bruce, Asst. Veg. Spec., 802 So. Main St., Blacksburg, Va., V.P.I.
 Bakken, E. H., Boy Scouts of America, New York, New York
 Baldwin, Harold, Extension Editor, Univ. of Connecticut, Storrs, Conn.
 Bender, Edward K., Asst. Veg. Garden Agent, Ext. Service, USDA, Rockville, Md.
 Benson, B. J., Asst. Mgr., Swift & Co., Plant Food Div., Baltimore, Md.
 Bloomer, Holmes, Gen. Mgr., Mandeville & King Co., Rochester, N. Y.
 Bluecher, Edward E., E. F. Burlingham & Sons, New York City
 Boerner, E. S., Secretary, Jackson & Perkins Co., Newark, New York
 Boicourt, A. W., Asst. Ext. Horticulturist, Mass. State College, Amherst, Mass.
 Boudreau, F. G., Chm. Food and Nutrition Board, 40 Wall St., New York City
 Bradley, Floyd, Chm., Victory Garden Com., Am. Seed Trade Assoc., Cleveland, Ohio
 Brandon, A. L., Sec. Treas., The Greenkeeping Supply Assn., St. Charles, Ill.
 Brandon, Rodney H., Former Dir. Public Welfare State of Ill., Batavia, Ill.
 Brasher, E. P., Head, Dept. of Hort., Univ. of Delaware, Newark, Delaware
 Brooks, Mrs. Frederick H., Treas., D.C. Victory Garden Committee, Wash., D.C.
 Brown, Helen Weigel, Feature Editor, House Beautiful Mag., New York City
 Burdett, James H., Dir., Nat'l Garden Bureau, Chicago, Illinois
 Burke, Eileen, McCall's Magazine, 1411 20th St., Washington, D. C.
 Burkhardt, George E., 4-H Club Agent, U.S.D.A., Ext. Service, Mineola, New York
 Burpee, W. Atlee, Jr., Vice Pres. & Treas., W. Atlee Burpee Co., Phila., Pa.
 Burrell, J. Lloyd, Asst. Ext. Editor, Ga. Agri. Ext. Service, Athens, Ga.
 Butterworth, Agnes G., Am. Jr. Red Cross, Prod. Program Advisor, Washington, D.C.
 Cameron, Janet L., Extension Nutritionist, Blacksburg, Va.
 Carleton, R. Milton, Vaughans Seed Store, Hinsdale, Illinois
 Cerveney, Clara Carolyn, Asst. Dir. Nutrition Service, Am. Red Cross, Wash., D.C.
 Champlin, Mrs. Wm. H., Pres., Nat. Council of St. Garden Clubs, Rochester, N. H.
 Clark, Merritt, Vice Pres., Assoc. Seed Growers, New Haven, Conn.
 Cole, Wm. R., Ext. Food Tech., Mass. State College, Amherst, Mass.
 Combs, O. B., Asst. Prof. of Hort., Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.
 Conkle, W. H., Ext. Spec., West Va. Univ., Morgantown, West Va.
 Corbett, L. W., Northrup King and Co., Minneapolis, Minn.
 Corfman, Rex M., Ex. Asst., Am. Horticultural Council, West Grove, Pa.
 Cullens, Helen, District Agent, Agri. Ext. Serv., Nashville, Tenn.
 Dickinson, Mrs. LaFell, Pres., Gen. Fed. of Womens Clubs, Washington, D. C.
 Dill, Malcolm H., City Planning Commission, Cincinnati, Ohio
 Donaldson, Mrs. Chase, 2234 Decatur Place, N. W., Washington, D. C.
 Edgecombe, S. W., Vice Pres., W. Atlee Burpee Co., Box 471, Doylestown, Pa.
 Emsweller, S. L., Prin. Horticulturist, USDA, College Park, Maryland
 Engle, Robert H., Agron., Nat'l, Fertilizer Assoc., Investment Bldg., Wash., D.C.
 Farnham, R. B., Ext. Spec. Orn. Hort., Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, N.J.
 Favinger, Wm. L., Reg. Director, Nat'l Garden Inst., Detroit 26, Michigan
 Ferguson, Bertha, Lee, La. Agri. Ext. Service, La. State Univ., Baton Rouge, La.
 Fieseler, John A., Pres., Peter Henderson & Co., New York City
 Franklin, J. Morton, Supervisor, Victory Gardens, D. C. Govt., Washington, D.C.
 Frost, Mrs. E. W., Garden Clubs, Fayetteville, Arkansas
 Gardner, John S., Ext. Horticulturist, Univ. of Ky., Lexington, Ky.
 Goode, Edith J., Natl. Council of Women of US, Washington, D. C.
 Grant, U. S., 3rd, Chm. Nat. Cap. Park & Planning Comm. Interior Bldg. Wash. D.C.

Graves, Harry, Ext. Hort., No. Dak. Ext. Service, Fargo, North Dakota
 Grau, Fred V., Dir. U. S. Golf Assn., Green Section, Beltsville, Md.
 Gray, T. D., Ext. Landscape Architect, West. Va. Univ., Morgantown, W.Va.
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The Attendance at the National Garden Conference included garden leaders and officials from 34 states. There was also a strong representation from many National Associations headquartered in Washington and from all of the Government bureaus affected. The Press, Radio, and Magazines were in large attendance and gave excellent reporting and publicity for the program. The foundation and general plans of the 1946 Victory Garden activities as well as the Permanent Garden Program were effectively outlined in this historic Garden Conference.

Editor's Note:

For the busy reader we have used subheads and have underlined some of the most important points of the various speeches.

Any material in this report can be quoted and we urge its use in any manner that will help to bring home to the public the urgent need of everyone who can to produce and preserve food to help meet the threat of world starvation.